

Health Impact News

Medical Kidnapping Children in the United States: Washington

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Washington



Breastfed, Homebirthed Babies Taken Away From Parents For Not Using Hospital



The Rengo Family: Cleave, Erica, with 10 month old Levi, and newborn twins.

UPDATE 3/15/2016

**[Medically Kidnapped Children of Washington
Parents Still not Returned - CPS Wants them
Adopted](#)**

UPDATE 6/30/2015

Rengo Children's Health Deteriorates in State Custody: Parent Visitation Cut Off

UPDATE 4/20/2015

CPS Destroying Rengo Family: Demands Erica Separate from her Husband to Get Children Back

UPDATE 2/11/2015

Breastfeeding Mother Arrested and Babies Taken Away by Force: The Parents' Side of the Story

UPDATE - 2/5/2015

The Rengos reportedly left their home in Washington to avoid having CPS take their children away again, and today, February 5, 2015, they were picked up in California, and the children were taken away from them by force.

[Full story here.](#)

UPDATE - 12/5/2014

Judge allows the babies to go home with parents, but with conditions and threats. See our [updated story here.](#)

UPDATE 3 - 12/3/2014

The Rengo Family placement hearing was continued...again...to Friday morning at 9 a.m

Representative [Jason Overstreet](#), representing the 42nd district in Washington, and who has taken an interest in this case, just posted an update on his [Facebook Page](#):

The political pressure being exerted by an outraged public is very obviously reverberating from the Governor's office on down.

The state wrapped up within 20 minutes, trying at the close of their argument to introduce new exhibits showing medical problems with one of the babies. The only problem was that the diagnosis for pneumonia, ear infections and reflux were well after the babies had been removed from their breast feeding mother..

The State fumbled, with the defense objecting to the haphazard manner in which the State introduced those documents. The State, realizing it's mistake, withdrew one of the documents and moved on.

At that point the defense team proceeded to systematically disassemble the State's premise—the family argues; there are “mental health issues” in the home; and the parents weren't adequately using the rash cream.

When the defense questioned the CPS supervisor as to whether or not the parents' religious beliefs were a consideration in this case, the State objected and the commissioner was very leery of the issue, demanding that the defense proceed carefully. I'll leave you to think about that one.

The State is on thin ice and they know it. At one point during cross-examination, being pointedly questioned by one of the defense attorneys asking incredibly damaging questions to the State's case, the court commissioner had to ask the CPS supervisor on the stand to speak up because “your voice is fading.” Mine would have been fading too.

UPDATE 2 – 12/3/2014

Peter Wagner of KGMI News and Talk Radio in Bellingham, Washington has also reported on the story, interviewing the family's attorney, [Stephen Pidgeon](#).

Attorney to court: Charge parents or give babies back

UPDATE 1 – 12/3/2014

[King 5 News](#) has reported on the Rengo family case:

Couple fights for custody of children after home birth

UPDATE 12/2/2014 – Hearing Extended to Wed.

Representative [Jason Overstreet](#), representing the 42nd district in Washington, and who has taken an interest in this case, just posted an update on his [Facebook Page](#):

The Rengo Family placement hearing was moved up this morning to 10 a.m. from the scheduled 4 p.m. hearing. I will withhold comment on that move.

Security was heavy. The courtroom was packed.

The allotted timeframe was 1 hour with an expected decision on placement either with the parents or a semi-permanent out of family placement. If your a poker player, this will be your “tell.”

The State Attorney General's Office stood in place of the

County legal team in the prosecution of this hearing. A rare move indeed. Attorney General Ferguson, the same AG who is persecuting Christian business owners for refusing to participate in weddings that conflict with their closely held religious beliefs, sent his legal team to take over in an attempt to spare the State embarrassment.

The Attorney General's Office took the entire hour, discussing police reports where no arrests were made, save one, prior to the birth of the children. No mention of the babies' health and welfare was even attempted by the State.

The court commissioner was frustrated at the State's extended attempt to muddy the water, even commenting on the rare nature of such extended testimony on a case that should be cut and dried after a forcible taking of children from their parents.

The hearing was extended to tomorrow at 2:30 on the 4th floor of the Whatcom County Courthouse, where he demanded that the State rap up and allow the family's legal team to present it's case.

Constitutional Attorney Steven Pidgeon petitioned the court for a writ of habeus corpus, asking that the charges be laid or the children be released to the parents. The writ of habeus corpus, a fundamental tool of liberty guaranteed by both our State and Federal Constitutions, was ignored by the court, the clerk stating that they hadn't even seen one in 20 years, with one judge refusing to even look at the writ.

There is much talk of "more to the story." There certainly is. There always is. If you are tempted to make that statement, ask yourself where your information is coming from and what the validity of that information actually is. This is not a

comfortable conversation, it's true. I shudder the horror of your family, or mine, under a microscope of the bureaucracy that is CPS.

UPDATE 12/1/2014

Constitutional Attorney [Stephen Pidgeon](#) has agreed to represent the Rengo Family in an attempt to reunite babies Levi, Morna, and Daniel with their parents. He will accompany the family to the hearing tomorrow, and the public and the media are encouraged to show up at the:

*Whatcom County Courthouse
311 Grand Avenue
Bellingham Washington
Tuesday December 2nd – @ 9:00 A.M.*

More details to follow. A [Facebook Page](#) has also been setup for the family.

Breastfed, Homebirthed Babies Taken Away From Parents For Not Using Hospital

by **Terri LaPoint**
Health Impact News

All three of their babies have been taken away from them and placed in the care of strangers. Levi was 10 months old when his mother, local singer and songwriter Erica May Rengo, gave birth to his twin brother and sister, at their

home in Bellingham, Washington.

“Our birth was glorious,” she said, and the twins were reportedly healthy, full-term babies, who had no problem quickly figuring out how to breastfeed. The little family was overjoyed until CPS stepped in to “help.”

It is another medical kidnapping according to the parents. The Rengos have chosen a wholesome, holistic lifestyle, based in their Christian faith. But CPS has stepped in to override the parents’ decisions. Now Erica and Cleave are living what they call a nightmare, separated from their children for reasons that don’t make any sense at all to them.

Decision to Home Birth

It was only natural for Erica to choose normal, family-centered birth. Erica herself was born at home, and says that her mother was a homebirth educator and La Leche League leader (a world-wide support and education group for breastfeeding mothers). She and Cleave chose a birth-center birth with their first baby, but decided to birth at home the second time. She knew that her body was perfectly designed to work for birth. She believed this was the direction God was showing them for the birth. Erica was very careful during her pregnancy to watch her diet and exercise, in preparation for the birth. She read, researched, and prepared.

She describes her homebirth as “exquisite” and “empowering.” Morna Kai Grace and Daniel Clemente were born into their parents’ loving arms.

The birth was perfect. There were no complications with the birth or afterwards. But Erica and her husband Cleave agreed

to allow the local paramedics in when someone called them, in an effort to appease concerned family members who were fearful of their decision to birth at home. That is where their problems began.



Baby Levi with mom Erica

The Medical System Gets Involved

Sometime after the babies arrived on October 2, paramedics arrived to find the twins nursing and everybody doing fine. The twins each weighed over 5 lbs, and the paramedics allegedly verified that everyone appeared healthy. The paramedics allegedly recommended that they go to the hospital for evaluation, which is standard procedure for EMTs.

The Rengos say they declined, telling them they didn't want to expose their newborns to the dirty environment of the hospital. They were planning to follow recommendations they had found, which stated that newborn twins should stay home for the first six weeks of life, to give their immune systems the opportunity to build up.

CPS Shows Up

The parents' believe that because they chose not to go to the hospital at that time, somebody called CPS. A couple of social workers showed up the next day, and wanted to see all of the children. CPS told Erica that they were "here to help." But Erica says that is not at all what happened.

When the social worker found some eczema on Levi's skin Erica told her that she was treating it with some herbal remedies, including comfrey and calendula, as well as applying coconut oil and giving probiotics. She was also doing an elimination diet to try to locate what could be causing the skin condition. Even though it was in the healing process, the social worker became critical that Erica wasn't treating his eczema with steroids, a treatment option that Erica wanted to save as a last resort because of the side effects. The CPS agent would later testify to the judge that

Erica had neglected to treat him completely.

Even so, the eczema was the only thing wrong. Erica says, “right away they found out that the children were not in danger.” The twins were completely healthy; the house was clean; and there are no drugs or alcohol involved.

The Rengos agreed to take the children to a pediatrician, who said the babies were doing fine. The only concern was that the twins were slow to gain weight. At the time, Erica was trying to maintain a supply for three breastfeeding babies. She says she followed the pediatrician’s advice to supplement with formula, and the babies promptly got back on track with weight gain.

This was allegedly verified by a nurse sent out by CPS to check on them.

Erica May and Cleave are holistic in their approach to life and health, preferring natural alternatives, like herbs and diet changes, to medicinal treatments. Those things appear to be options only if CPS is not involved.

CPS Takes Custody of Children

On November 6, CPS showed up at the front door while Erica was softly singing and playing her guitar to her resting babies. When she checked the door, they told her that they were there to take her children, citing neglect for not giving Levi steroids for his eczema, and the home-birth without medical prenatal care with the twins, as well as the allegations of abuse, accusations which Erica had already assured them were completely unfounded. She also had prenatal care, just not with a doctor.

With one baby on her back, the frightened mother fled out the back door with her children to a neighbor's house, but police and CPS "hunted her down," and took these breastfed babies from their mothers' arms. The twins were 5 weeks old.

The Fight for Lilly Foundation, a non-profit group that fights for families affected by CPS corruption, posted the [first information](#) on their [Facebook page](#) about Erica May in Bellingham whose babies were taken by CPS because of a homebirth and her refusal to use steroids for the babies. Through the Lilly Foundation, *Health Impact News* was able to contact the family to find out what happened.

Erica broke down into sobs as I spoke with her. "My children were safe and healthy with me." Since they have been taken by CPS, Levi has reportedly had pneumonia, and has reportedly been diagnosed with "behavioral problems" because he screams and cries all the time.

He is screaming, Erica says, because he wants his mom and dad.

Why Are Children with No History of Abuse Being Taken Away from Loving Parents for Medical Reasons?

Children who have allegedly not been abused in any way have been taken by CPS from loving parents for reasons so flimsy that it has left the Rengos and their friends stunned. Several of their friends write that Erica is "a great mama."

"This is not the right thing to do to mothers and children," Erica emphasizes. "If they thought we needed help, they should have brought help in, not taken the children out."

They have suffered and I have suffered since our separation.”

Erica feels that she and her children are being abused by the system. When they separate babies from their loving mothers, she says “they are dehumanizing people. The outcome of that is so much worse than any kind of dispute for medical reasons.”

Cleave and Erica were supposed to have their visitation with their children on Monday, but there wasn’t a social worker available to supervise the visit. Levi’s first birthday is on Black Friday. The day will be black for Erica and Cleave, but for very different reasons than the holiday retailers. They will miss their first child’s first birthday because CPS won’t have any workers available to supervise a visit that day either.

The Stressful Separation of Infants from Parents

Erica is a brokenhearted postpartum mother who wants nothing more than to be at home with all of her children by her side. Research shows that infants do not comprehend separation from their mother; they feel abandoned when they aren’t with her. Has it really come to the point where CPS can justify the emotional trauma to the children simply because parents don’t choose to follow every recommendation of the medical associations?

In President Obama’s immigration speech last week, he asked, “Are we a nation that accepts the cruelty of ripping children from their parents’ arms? Or are we a nation that values families, and works to keep them together?”

Yet it is this very nation whose Child Protection Service agencies have ripped tiny babies from their parents' arms simply for the crime of disagreeing with a medical decision. If this could happen to a family who has only sought the most natural of care, then whose children are safe from CPS? Should this type of apparent medical tyranny be tolerated?

Erica May and Cleave Rengo face a court date on December 2. They don't know what they will face then. Supporters are hoping that their story will be shared far and wide, and their children can be returned home quickly.

The Governor of Washington is Jay Inslee. His office number is 360-902-4111. You can [email him from here](#).

The parents next court date is December 2, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the Whatcom County Courthouse, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham Washington.

Local King 5 News Reports on Rengo Family Children being Medically Kidnapped



Photo courtesy of family.

UPDATE – 12/3/2014

Peter Wagner of KGMI News and Talk Radio in Bellingham, Washington has also reported on the story, interviewing the family's attorney, [Stephen Pidgeon](#).

Attorney to court: Charge parents or give babies back

Couple fights for custody of children after home birth

by [Alison Morrow, KING 5 News](#)

Excerpts:

Erica May Carey and Cleave Rengo haven't applied for a Washington state marriage license, but they said their vows before God.

"We just prayed and invited God to bless our relationship so we'd have a family built on a firm foundation," Rengo said.

They'd only known each other a matter of hours before they decided to spend their lives together. Soon after, they conceived their first son.

Almost immediately after his birth, Carey was pregnant again. This time, the couple's Christian beliefs influenced their decision to have an unassisted home birth.

"I've done a lot of research about other women who have done it and they said the spiritual experience was so much more wholesome," Carey said. "It was just us. We wanted to preserve that sanctity and sacredness in our birth."

To preserve the sacred space of her womb, Carey never even had an ultrasound. It wasn't until immediately after the

birth of their second son that the couple realized a twin daughter was on the way.

“I said, ‘Erica look!’ and she looked at her belly,” Cleave remembered. “There was an outline of a small baby in her belly. That’s when I discovered we were having twins.”

The young couple now had three children, all under the age of 1 year. Erica breastfed all three. Soon after, however, paramedics showed up when someone reported the birth.

According to Carey and Rengo, the paramedics suggested taking the newborns to the hospital for a check up, but they refused, worrying about the twins’ health with fragile immune systems among patients fighting disease.

The next day, CPS showed up for the first of several visits.

Officers noticed the 10-month-old’s eczema, the couple says, which they treated with natural remedies like probiotics and coconut oil.

They say CPS pushed them to switch to steroid creams, which the couple refused as well.

“It’s a very harsh treatment and can have very negative side effects. It can cause damage to bones, the muscular system and liver,” Carey said.

“They wanted the authority in my household. I told them, ‘I’m a Christian and God gave me the authority in my household,’” Rengo said.

Soon after, CPS took all 3 children.

Read the [full story here](#).

Washington: Vaccinate All Your Children with Flu Shot or We Will Take Your 2-Week Old Baby



Jamie Smith with 2-week old foster baby. She refuses to vaccinate her entire family with the flu shot as a requirement to keep their foster child. Photo Courtesy KomoNews.com.

Health Impact News Editor Comments

As we have reported here at Health Impact News in many of our stories, U.S. States have tremendous financial incentives to take children away from families and place them into foster care. (See: [The Medical Kidnapping Business: Bilking Medicaid](#).)

A child who is the ward of the State will automatically be

eligible to have all of their medical needs reimbursed by Medicaid with little or no oversight. This is a huge financial windfall for medical professionals and pharmaceutical companies who can prescribe drugs and treatments by bypassing parental and insurance approval. Therefore, we are seeing foster children today being drugged at a rate many times higher than non-foster children. (See: [Foster Care Abuse: Drugging Children Against Their Will.](#))

In Washington State, officials have apparently now mandated that all foster parent families must get their entire households, including young children, vaccinated with the influenza vaccine as a requirement for keeping any foster children. This is in spite of the fact that the flu vaccine is both [dangerous](#) and largely [ineffective](#).

As KOMO News is reporting in Tacoma, at least one foster parent is fighting back, and refusing to comply, even if it means losing her 2-week old baby.

Please be sure to click through and watch the video on [KOMONews.com](#). Thank them for covering this important story regarding parental rights and medical tyranny.

Foster mom says she's willing to lose infant over flu shot mandate

by [Keith Eldridge](#)
[KomoNews.com](#)

Excerpts:

TACOMA, Wash. — Foster families are under a new mandate that everyone in their house needs a flu shot if they have foster kids under two years of age.

If they don't comply, the children will be taken from them. At least one foster mom is going to fight that.

Foster parent Jamie Smith of Tacoma has a new addition to her foster home.

"He was born on Christmas. He's our little Christmas baby," Smith said.

Seven other babies have come through her home, including Bonnie, who is now 4-years old and adopted by the Smith family.

But the little 2-week-old may get taken away by the state unless Smith and all the members of her house get a flu shot. That includes the older foster kids in her care. She's not going to comply.

"I've done a lot of research on it and I don't like some of the side effects that it has," she said.

Smith says she's worried about mercury in the vaccine and its effects on the brain. She doesn't want her or her five children exposed to that even if it means losing the little one.

"I've thought about that a lot," said Smith. "Unfortunately, I have to think about our kids who are in the house first and to me they're more important, their safety, than trying to fight to keep this little guy."

She isn't getting the shot, but her electrician husband did. He works for MultiCare and they require all employees to get a shot. Nurses at Multicare's Tacoma General and Good Samaritan Hospitals are suing the company over its

insistence they get flu shots or face termination.

“It is serious,” said Heather Stephens-Selby of the Washington State Nurses Association.

Now the foster families who handle young foster children are under the same gun. They hope by speaking out the state will ease up and keep the foster families together.

Read the [Full Story here](#).

Rengo Family Children Taken Back into State Custody in Washington, As Family Tries to Flee CPS



Erica (mother) is restrained by several police as they take away her babies. She was arrested for resisting officers. Photo courtesy [King 5 News](#) video (view below).

UPDATE 2/11/2015

[Breastfeeding Mother Arrested and Babies Taken Away by Force: The Parents' Side of the Story](#)

Health Impact News

Video no longer available.

The Rengos reportedly left their home in Washington to avoid having CPS take their children away again, but on February 5, 2015, they were picked up in California, and the children were taken away from them by force.



Erica with her 10 month old son Levi in California, trying to resist arrest. Photo [courtesy King 5 News video](#) (view above.)

According to [ksbw.com](#):

Cleve Goheen-Rengo, 23, and Erica Carey, 29, fled from their Washington home with the three children. A warrant was not issued for their arrest, but a Be On The Lookout was issued by Bellingham police to West Coast law enforcement.

Bellingham police officers said it was not a criminal kidnapping or Amber Alert investigation, but rather a civil violation by defying CPS court orders.

So while no criminal charges were made against the parents, nevertheless, the children will be returned to State custody in Washington.

The children seemed OK, according to California authorities.

“They didn’t appear to have any obvious injuries or ailments,” (California Highway Patrol officer) Sadek said. ([Source.](#))



Erica (mother of 3 babies) being arrested. Photo courtesy of ksbw.com.

Erica (the mother) was arrested for refusing to cooperate with Santa Cruz County law enforcement. She reportedly shouted out:

“Send a message to America for me. Children don’t belong to the government. The government belongs to the people.”

[Read the Full Story here.](#)



[Original story on MedicalKidnap here.](#) (Over 1.5 million views with over 1 million shares on Facebook.)

Breastfeeding Mother Arrested and Babies Taken Away by Force: The Parents' Side of the Story



Erica (mother of 3 babies) being arrested. Photo courtesy of ksbw.com.

by **Terri LaPoint**
Health Impact News

The police literally ripped 14 month old Levi from his mother's breast, reports Erica May Carey, as she was nursing him in the car at a California gas station. Her baby was screaming, and she says her breast was exposed as the officers dragged her from the car. As she recounted the

events of last Thursday, Erica began weeping, saying that she was “hogtied like an animal, when moments before I was nursing my infant.” She was arrested and jailed for fighting to keep her children with her.

Watch the video here from [King 5 News](#):

Video no longer available.

Erica and Cleave Rengo were the subject of national interest as reports of them fleeing Washington CPS made the headlines. Last November, the holistic, devoutly Christian couple’s three breastfed babies were taken amidst accusations of neglect for choosing alternative remedies such as calendula and coconut oil for their older baby’s eczema and preferring not to take their newborn twins to the hospital after an unassisted homebirth, even though they were reportedly healthy.

After a court hearing and huge public outcry, the babies were returned home in December. It had been a grueling month of separation, and their return came with strings attached. They were being watched, and reportedly had a number of conditions placed upon them in order to be permitted to parent Levi, and the twins, 4 month old Daniel and Morna Kai.

Erica recently spoke exclusively with *Medical Kidnap* to tell their side of the story and why they left Washington.

Neighbor Calls Cops Over Crying Baby

Erica and Cleave live with Cleave’s father in one side of a town home with thin walls dividing them from their neighbors. The couple was trying to get the babies back into

a good breastfeeding routine, something that had been disrupted by the babies' stay in foster care. Erica says that Daniel, one of the twins, had been seriously overfed formula while in state care, gaining an average of 4 oz per day.

According to the well-respected mommy blog [kellymom](#), normal weight gain for a baby his age is 5 to 7 oz per week. Feeding was especially rough for Daniel, and he reportedly showed signs of PTSD when feeding. One night in particular, he was having a really tough night and was crying a lot. The next-door neighbor reportedly called the police on them, and they came out over the disturbance of a crying baby.

Added Stress From CPS

Life with three small children can be stressful and chaotic in the best of circumstances, as many mothers will attest. Cleave and Erica had the added stress of dealing with CPS watching over their shoulder, and the loss of Cleave's job over the whole ordeal. Erica says that they were "severely repressed by the system in Bellingham." CPS reportedly told them that no one could visit them in their home, to help them or any other reason, without CPS approval. Even though a number of people applied, only one person had allegedly been approved.

A social worker would sometimes drop by unannounced to check on the children, but inevitably, like Murphy's law, that would happen during naptime. Yet, she would reportedly pound loudly on the door instead of knocking, waking the sleeping children and "creating chaos" in the house.

Decision to Get Away and De-stress

There were family members who had never met the children

who were less than supportive. Cleave and Erica tell us that they had for some time been discussing making a trip to visit some family and friends in California, in the hope that they would be able to gain their support once they met the babies and could sit down and talk.



(Image via [Imgarcade](#))

They knew that their next court hearing was not until February 10, so it seemed like a good idea at the time to get away for a few days, and go visit some relatives and friends. They were scared, and they were under a great deal of pressure.

Erica reports that they were never told that they could not travel out of state. There was nothing saying that in the paperwork, either. They believed that, as long as they were back for the next scheduled court date, they would be fine. They could just get away for a little while to de-stress and regroup. They left on Tuesday, January 27.

Misinterpreted Intentions

It was after they were on the road and quite a distance from home that word reached them that there were news reports saying they were fleeing CPS. They heard rumors of an Amber Alert, and that they were accused of kidnapping their children.

According to the [*Daily Mail*](#), there was not actually an Amber Alert, but a “Be On The Lookout” warning was issued to police across the West Coast, while local news outlets also ran the notice. The day after Cleave and Erica left their home, CPS obtained an order to take the children into custody, reports the [*Bellingham Herald*](#).

Plans to visit family and friends changed when they heard the reports, Erica reports. They did not want to endanger anyone by showing up on their doorstep, so they actually turned around and were headed back to Washington when they were sighted and apprehended at a gas station on Thursday, February 5.

Erica Arrested and Babies Taken Into Custody



Erica with her 10 month old son Levi in California. Photo courtesy [King 5 News](#).

Erica says that she was nursing her oldest baby in their car at the Santa Cruz gas station when police came and tore Levi away from her breast, dragging her out of the car. She describes the whole ordeal as devastating as they took her children away, leaving her bruised physically and emotionally:

“That is not justice; that is brutality to an innocent mother and father.”

As she was arrested for refusing to cooperate with the authorities, she reportedly shouted out to reporters:

“Send a message to America for me. Children don’t belong to the government. The government belongs to the people.”

While authorities flew Levi and the twins to Washington to be placed in foster homes, the breastfeeding mother of three spent the weekend in a Santa Cruz county jail. She was released Monday on her own recognizance. The couple is now making their way back to Washington.

There was a hearing scheduled for Tuesday morning, but the judge has ruled that they will reconvene in 7 days, on Tuesday, February 17.

Addressing Rumors and Accusations

There are a number of things that have circulated in the media about their story that Cleave and Erica told us they wanted to clear up.

One of the reasons that CPS gave for becoming involved in their lives allegedly centers on the twins being “too skinny.” Erica says that the charts that the babies’ weight has been judged by are based on single births, not twins, who are commonly smaller than their singleton counterparts at birth and as they grow in the first several months. The babies were born at 37 weeks, and for being twins at that gestational age, their birth weights were normal. They were gaining weight, and she was working to build an adequate milk supply, supplementing as necessary. However, she chose goat’s milk formula over conventional formula, because she believed it to be healthier based on her research, but the social worker apparently did not approve of that choice.

Some news stories have reported that Levi was suffering

from ear infections, pneumonia, and eczema, which were untreated. However, the couple point out that the ear infections and pneumonia occurred AFTER Levi was taken from home, placed into foster care, and given formula. They chose to treat the eczema with natural remedies, such as calendula and coconut oil, and they were helping, Erica reports. They did not want to subject Levi to the risks of steroids, except as a last resort.

There have been allegations that Cleave is abusive to Erica, and Erica wants to put that rumor to rest. They are certainly passionate people, but that is not the same thing. Erica says that she was raised in a family with a flair for the dramatic, with an opera singer and actress in the household. Besides that, she reminds, life can get emotional with 3 children in less than a year.

“Cleave does not abuse me. We certainly have our share of disagreements, like all normal couples do. We are a young couple with three babies. But I am CERTAINLY not an abused wife.”

Erica insists that Cleave is her best friend and that they are deeply in love. Others who know them have attested to this as well. Theirs is a romantic love story, she says, which happened after an intense time of prayer and seeking the Lord. They said their vows before God, and Levi was conceived that very night. They consider themselves married, even though the State has not sanctioned their marriage by issuing them a “marriage license.”

The Love of Parents for Their Children

They also deeply love their children. They want the very best for them, seeking holistic, natural remedies, breastfeeding, and giving them all the love they have to give. Erica tells us:

“When I am with my babies, that is when I am the happiest. We are good parents, and we take care of our kids the best way we possibly can.”

Their hope and prayer is that the judge will see that love, and will see how CPS has traumatized an innocent family, causing the very harm that they are supposed to prevent.

[Original story on MedicalKidnap here.](#) (Over 1.5 million views with over 1 million shares on Facebook.)

NOTE: There is no official Facebook Page at the time of publication endorsed by Cleave and Erica. We will link to one here as soon as one is established, which will then have details from the parents as to how you can support them.

Was Medical Kidnap in Washington State a Cover-up for Medical Malpractice?



Kevin Kulman shows where he had heart surgery. His mother was accused of Munchausen by Proxy (faking medical symptoms) to justify taking him into State custody. Image source YouTube.

Branded the “Munchausen by Proxy” Mom

by Denise Easthon

Health Impact News

Being worried about Child Protection Services (CPS) taking her child was the last thing on the mind of Anne Giroux, a mother living in Washington State who was seeking medical treatment for her son, Kevin Kulman.

Her story began in 2009 when her son Kevin started having concerning symptoms which drove her to take him to multiple doctor visits looking for an answer. He was having shortness of breath, he was sleeping 16-20 hours day, he had increased absences from school. There were visits made to the ER with chest pain, as well as visits to the regular physician.

She worried about having a family history of heart disease and why the doctor wasn't concerned nor would he give her a referral to a cardiologist. For the next year the symptoms continued. He was treated as if there were no issues associated with his heart.

Instead he was allegedly misdiagnosed as having asthma. In 2011, attempting to acquire a sports physical for Kevin, the family physician refused to sign it, since he'd had previous chest pain. Instead, he referred them to a cardiologist. He allegedly refused to give Kevin's medical records to Anne even though she was entitled to them. When the cardiologist saw Kevin and performed an echocardiogram, he made no diagnosis or recommendations concerning his heart according to Anne, but instead he was diagnosed with asthma.

Kevin has a Heart Attack – Rare Surgery Followed

On May 21, 2012 Kevin suffered a heart attack while at school

during his physical education class. The explanation of why he suffered the heart attack was a rare congenital heart condition which had been previously undetected: AAOCA: Anomalous Aortic Origin of a Coronary Artery.

According to Children's Heart Foundation, this anomaly is associated with such a high risk of sudden death, which is increased during or just after exercise in what appears to be otherwise healthy children and young adults. It is a leading cause of sudden death in children and young adults participating in sports. More than 90% of affected individuals have an abnormal resting electrocardiogram. Most times this condition is found post mortem.

For Kevin, though, he was able to have corrective open heart surgery on July 3, 2012 at Seattle Children's Hospital in Seattle Washington. According to Anne, his surgery was the very first surgery ever performed by his cardiac surgeons. It was videotaped and shared in a conference with cardiologists from all over the world, and published in medical journals.

After Kevin's Heart Surgery a Nightmare Began for Anne and her Family



Anne Giroux – Image from YouTube.

While in the hospital Kevin had his first pleural effusion. Around August 8, 2012 he had a cardiac tamponade requiring another procedure. With each prescription of prednisone he became increasingly more uncomfortable with irritability, inability to sleep and increased appetite which caused weight gain.

His pain medications caused nausea and headaches requiring other medications to alleviate those effects. He has had a chronic deep dry cough since surgery and has been unable to lay flat without difficulty breathing.

The doctors told Anne his chest pain following up to this finding was not cardiac related and insisted they stop calling/going to the ER for chest pains and breathing difficulties. They claimed it was a result of de-conditioning, and their prescription was for him to play basketball and be

more physically active. However they wouldn't authorize him to have PE at school or do a cardiac stress test.

Kevin was admitted to the hospital and administered a variety of medications on multiple occasions when the recurring complications had become very severe. He would be diagnosed with pneumonia and elevated cardiac blood levels and would require oxygen. Prior to each hospitalization there would be 2-3 visits to the ER with the same symptoms of chest pains, and difficulty breathing while laying down. He would be told again it was not cardiac related and dismissed.

Kevin would develop hives, a headache, nausea, and vomit when morphine was given, and still the physicians allegedly wanted to continue to administer it. They apparently didn't believe it was an allergic reaction. After a year, they charted him to have a POSSIBLE allergic reaction to morphine. Prednisone allegedly causes his stomach to have pain which even other medications don't help.

Medical records documented the cardiologist had 1-2 visits and wrote "maternal anxiety" in Kevin's chart. Later Anne wondered if that could be a "code" or could it be that he just made a medical error?

What mother would NOT have anxiety after her teenage son suffered a heart attack and subsequent open heart surgery and still had lingering symptoms which showed no promise of abating?

CPS Takes Custody

When one of the physicians who was involved in the case reported Anne to CPS with allegations of "[Munchausen](#)

Syndrome by Proxy” CPS intervened and took custody of the teenager. Munchausen by Proxy syndrome is a condition in which a person intentionally fakes, simulates, worsens, or self-induces an injury or illness for the main purpose of being treated like a medical patient. Named after a German military man, Baron von Munchausen, who traveled around telling fantastic tales about his imaginary exploits. In 1951, Richard Asher applied the term to people traveling from hospital to hospital, fabricating various illnesses. (See: Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy: A Fake Psychiatric Disorder Used to Medically Kidnap Children?)

If Anne was indeed “faking symptoms” to have her son treated, then why did he suffer a heart attack and why did the physicians involved perform open heart surgery if nothing was wrong with him? Anne asked:

“If a doctor performs an operation and prescribes drugs for my child based upon ME having Munchausen by proxy, what PSYCHIATRIC MALADY afflicts THE DOCTOR?”

Anne wonders if the insurance company, doctors, lawyers and judges were just attempting to circumvent any liability for medical malpractice by focusing all blame on her.

In November 2012 Kevin was removed from his home and underwent sleep deprivation, extreme trauma of being told by his doctors that his chest pains were not cardiac related, and being further ignored until he collapsed and was diagnosed with pericardial effusion, pleural effusion, and pneumonia. He was also told he may never see his mother again because his symptoms were not real, even though they were treating him.

Anne believes that Dr. Matthew Park, Dr. Maggie Likes, Dr. Roberta Stephenson, and Dr. Mason Oltman among other defendants named in her lawsuit conspired to falsify the medical treatment history in order to support their malevolent plan to paint the plaintiff as someone suffering from MSBP and to then make a false referral to Pierce County CPS.

Case Dismissed but Lives Ruined

Even though the case against her was eventually dismissed, and Kevin eventually returned, Anne is still branded with the stigma of being a child abuser. She is still suffering the results of having lost her job because of false allegations. It still took them a year, a year she won't ever get back, a year of lost income and lost employment. She has suffered insurmountable financial and emotional damages which have devastated her whole family. She has no job, no car, no money and is facing her home foreclosure.

Anne has been cleared and regained custody of her son who is now over 18 years old. When asked how he feels about now being an adult and free from threat of being removed from his home Kevin responds,

“I feel relief since CPS can't bother me, but my new fear since I'm adult is that they can charge me and falsely accuse me of things.”

Anne is filing suit asking for the removal, under WA const. Art 4, Sect 9, of the corrupt judges whom she feels have set themselves up as “gods,” making unfounded psychiatric diagnoses which enable them to arrest people and then remove their children. She has sought assistance from

various Senators and Representatives for help against their criminal conduct.

The following are named in her correspondence: 1) Judge James Orlando; 2) Judge Elizabeth Martin; 3) Commissioner Diana Lynn Kiesel and 4) Judge Kitty- Ann van.

[You can see copies of her correspondence here.](#)

The following quote is found on Anne's [GOFUNDME site](#):

“The fight for justice against corruption is never easy. It never has been and never will be. It exacts a toll on our self, our families, our friends, and especially our children. In the end, I believe, as in my case, the price we pay is well worth holding on to our dignity.”

~Frank Serpico

Here is Anne telling her story in her own words:

<https://youtu.be/WvqV8UoBEYI>

Sources:

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- <http://www.corruptwa.com/corrupt/government-officials/anne-giroux-seeks-article-4-sec-9-removal-of-judges-james-orlando-elizabeth-martin-kitty-ann-van-doorninck/>
- [Giroux et al v. Child Protective Svcs Dept of Social & Health Svcs for St of WA et al](#)
- [MUNCHHAUSEN MOM OR HOSPITAL COVER UP?](#)

CPS Destroying Rengo Family: Demands Erica Separate from her Husband to Get Children Back



Cleave, Erica, and their three children. CPS demanded that Erica separate from Cleave against her will.

by **Health Impact News and MedicalKidnap.com** staff

It has been more than three months since the dramatic arrest and capture of Erica May and Cleave Rengo's 3 small children by CPS in California, where Erica shouted to reporters:

“Send a message to America for me. Children don’t belong to the government. The government belongs to the people.”



The unforgettable image of Erica being arrested when they ripped her babies from her. Photo courtesy of ksbw.com.

Erica and Cleave are from Washington State, and say they were on their way back to Washington to attend a required CPS meeting when California law enforcement intervened and took away their children. (See: [Rengo Family Children Taken Back into State Custody in Washington, As Family Tries to Flee CPS.](#))

Erica Reaches Out to Media

After a period of media silence, Erica has reached out to

several media outlets, including *Health Impact News*, *Epic Times* with Robert Scott Bell, and *The Captain*, a blog-talk radio show that is popular with those fighting injustice in the CPS system. She says that the tyranny against her family is continuing, and she is exposing what she is calling “enslavement” by the system. The homebirthing, breastfeeding mother of three wants the world to know what has happened to her family. She told Robert Scott Bell:

“I know that this has been affecting a lot of people over the nation. I don’t want to be silenced by what’s going on, because people need to know, and they need to know how to prevent situations such as mine, so that the government doesn’t have a chance to get involved and intervene in the way that they have in my home.”

No longer available.

The latest developments are that Erica May and Cleave have separated, and the children are allegedly being medically abused while in state foster care.

The babies have also been separated from each other. Erica reports that she has learned that not even the twins are together in the same foster home, a development that is devastating to her.

[See the original story on Medical Kidnap here.](#)

CPS Demands That the Rengos Separate

Like the separation from their children, the couple’s separation is not by choice. CPS is “trying to make [Cleave]

out to be a monster, but he's not," Erica told *Health Impact News*. She reports that CPS has told her that she must leave him and get her own place, in order for them to consider giving the babies back to her. She is also required to see a therapist, of the state's choosing, and attend domestic violence/sexual assault classes. Erica reports that she is complying with their demands. She feels that she has no choice, because nothing is more important to her as a mother than getting her babies back.

Erica has maintained since her very first conversation with us that Cleave is not abusive. She has explained that some around them have interpreted their religious viewpoint that the husband is the head of the wife as being evidence of abuse. During their involvement with CPS, she says that lawyers and social workers alike have tried to pit husband against wife. She made it clear as she spoke with the Captain on his blogtalk radio show that "we love each other."



Erica May and Cleave Rengo – Happy Before CPS. Source: Facebook.

“If a couple can’t have a decent argument from time to time without the police showing up and making a report and making that a foundation for taking our children away, then where is our freedom of speech?”

The couple says that they took their vows before God, not before a judge or agent of the law, and they consider themselves married. But because of the court’s involvement, this union is being torn apart. She feels that they are being manipulated into compliance, with the consequences of not

submitting being the loss of her children forever. “Maybe” she can get them back if she can jump through all the hoops.

“I’m certainly not happier being separated from him.”

Babies Have Numerous Medical Issues in State Care

The children are also not better off under state care, Erica asserts. One of the primary complaints when the state stepped in was Levi’s eczema, which she was treating, effectively, with holistic methods such as calendula cream and coconut oil. She had just begun seeing positive results using Kangen water when the children were seized.

However, since they have been out of her care, the children have been sick, including pneumonia, thrush, severe yeast infections, ear infections, and more. She says that each of them has been on antibiotics and other medications. Daniel has a very severe case of thrush, including visible blisters in his mouth. He has been prescribed a non-organic Similac formula that he does not appear to be adjusting to well.

This doesn’t sit well with his mother, who prefers all-natural and organic remedies and foods. This is not surprising, considering that she planned an unassisted homebirth and breastfed all of the babies. Natural is a way of life for her that is allegedly being stolen away from her children.



Listen to The Captain's interview with Erica May [here](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/thecapt).

The children allegedly have dirt and chafing in the folds of their necks; their nails are long and untrimmed; and Erica finds uncleaned poop remaining in the creases when she changes their diapers during visits. Levi has reportedly even had panic attacks. Erica May is very concerned about their health. She only gets to visit them about 6 hours a week total, when CPS doesn't cancel the visits for one reason or another.

Cleave sees his children even less. His visits have been limited to once a month.

Erica says that she misses singing to her babies, caressing them, and "meeting every little need they have." She really wants all of this nightmare to come to an end. She and Cleave have not committed any crime, nor have they ever abused or neglected their children, she asserts. They have no criminal charges against them.

One of the allegations against them is that the babies were not gaining enough weight. In fact, once their case went to

court, Erica says that the weight issue emerged as the primary reason for the state of Washington seizing the babies. Since they were taken, however, Erica has learned that the growth charts that were used to condemn them are charts that compare the twins' weight to singleton charts. This makes for an unfair, and inaccurate, assessment.

They Never Should Have Let Them in the Door

Erica says that she wishes that she and Cleave had understood their Constitutional rights. She told Robert Scott Bell that they did not realize that they did not have to let the paramedics in when they came to the door, and that they did not have to let the social worker in without a warrant.

A neighbor had called the paramedics after what Erica describes as the perfect, "glorious," and "empowering" unassisted homebirth of the twins. They were born healthy, with no complications, and started breastfeeding right away. A nosy neighbor allegedly took it upon herself to call the paramedics, "just to make sure everything is ok." It was, but Erica and Cleave were under no obligation to let them in. They didn't know that. One of the paramedics recommended that they go to the hospital to get checked out. When they refused, stating that they didn't want to expose their newborns to the germ environment of the hospital, the paramedic allegedly told them that he was going to call CPS.

When the CPS social worker came, she did not have a warrant. Erica reports that she did not realize that the 4th Amendment protected her right to refuse her entry. Like many parents, she felt that she had nothing to hide, so she invited the worker into her home, treating her with kindness and respect. That kindness was reciprocated with the

ultimate seizure of her 3 babies.

4th Amendment to the United States Constitution – “The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.”

Erica: This Is Not What Ancestors Fought and Died for

Since that day, Erica’s world has been turned upside down and her family has been ripped apart. She has been devastated to learn that American citizens have more rights to protect personal property, like homes, cars, or electronics, than we do our own children. She tearfully asked the Captain,

“How are people still functioning? I look outside my window on a regular basis, and I’m like, wow, the world’s still going on. My world doesn’t feel like it’s going on. My family’s torn apart, and my children are being subjected to medical abuse and probably experimental drugs for all I know. This is NOT the country that my ancestors fought and died for. This is nothing other than mental and spiritual and emotional enslavement.”

From Bubby's Best Birthday to Parent's Worst Nightmare: Medical Kidnapping in Washington



Bubby with his parents Brandi and Thomas Everson. Image from [Bubby's Journey Facebook Page](#).

UPDATE 6/17/2015

From [Bubby's Journey Facebook Page](#):

Day 25: We lost the shelter care hearing largely in part because we didn't have his full medical file available for the shelter care (We're missing MultiCare, and there's a request out for it, and we haven't heard back from SCH records for the complete file from them either). The judge did not have

the full extent of information needed to make the decision to return him home. This doesn't mean we've lost completely. There are things that are being put in motion before Fact Finding. Fact Finding trial is the next set of court dates, but our attorney has said it's going to cost a significant amount more for what we need to do in Fact Finding. You might think that we would feel defeated, but we are never more driven than now to bring Bubby home. They allege we've done something wrong, but not once did anyone from CPS or Seattle Children's contact us to clear the air before they ripped Bubby from his home and loved ones.

We can't fault the judge, because the judge didn't have all of the information. But now we're going to need to spend a significant amount of money to continue on fighting this corruption (CPS and SCH for clarity). Our attorney is estimating in the range of another \$30,000 to prepare (taking depositions and other various things) and for him to continue representing us through the Fact Finding trial. We don't know how we're going to do it, but we will do whatever is necessary to raise the money by the grace of God.

*This is angering to no end. The fact that Bubby's continued placement out of our care means that he's at *actual* risk of imminent harm. We've taken many photos of the injuries, and the people who have come to our house to see them are appalled. Now they are public, for you to see and share. It's absolutely unacceptable that he continues to be put in jeopardy by being in the foster system based on doctors from Seattle Children's lying to have him taken (such as in the Dependency Petition, allegation 19 where SCH says Bubby was never diagnosed with autism, but we showed his most recent outpatient note clearly indicating that he is followed for autism spectrum disorder). The judge hadn't seen the*

harm that's come to him in the foster system, because The State objected to the information being admitted into court for the shelter care because it was "after the fact" of his removal from home.

We've filed these letters and photos with CPS and we continue to receive responses likened to "your concerns have been noted" in different incarnations of the phrase, instead of actual incident reports. No one has told us if incident reports are even being filled out as these injuries happen.

This is about the truth, and Bubby coming home. Anyone who tries to block the truth is a co-conspirator to hide it. We won't rest until the truth about CPS and the lying doctors is out in the open for everyone to see, and Bubby is home.

Stay strong Bubby. We're fighting for you!

Health Impact News

Since last week, Brandi and Thomas Everson have been fighting to regain custody of their son Bubby in Washington State. CPS made allegations of medical abuse against the Eversons and removed their medically fragile child after he gained national media attention for a special birthday wish. The Eversons have a court hearing at 1:30 p.m. today (June 1, 2015) in their fight to get their son back:

Tacoma Juvenile Court,

Remman Hall

5501 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

Medically Fragile Child's Birthday Wish: To Get Birthday Cards



Image from Facebook Page – [Birthday Cards 4 Bubby](#)

According to Bubby's parents, he was born with congenital CMV, or Cytomegalovirus, plus autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, deafness, scoliosis, and sometimes experiencing up to 10 seizures a day. The Eversons launched an online campaign a few months ago to request birthday cards, and a local news station picked up the story. Soon, Bubby's birthday cards would begin arriving. (See: [Family plans son's 9th birthday like it will be his last, hopes simple act by others will help fulfill his only wish.](#))

Parents Believe that Bubby's Birthday Wish Made Him a Target of CPS

Bubby's request for birthday cards went viral, and soon Bubby was opening heaps of mail every day. He even received a card from President Obama.

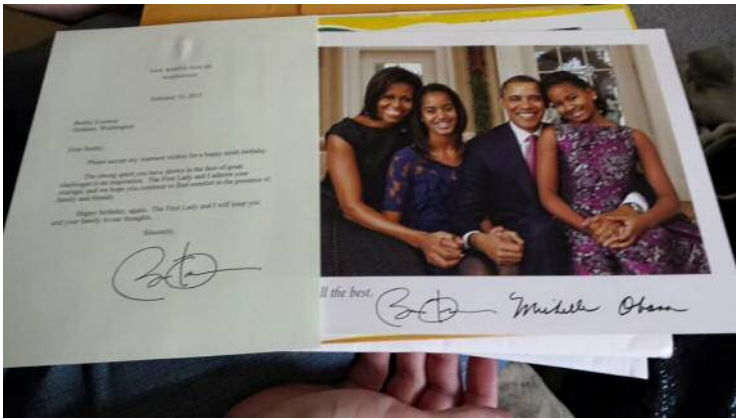


Image from [Bubby's Journey Facebook Page](#)

“It was amazing,” said Bubby’s dad, Thomas Everson. “We were opening mail every day, and he was happy.”

The Everson’s had to eventually rent a storage locker to hold all the Birthday cards and packages Bubby received. Below is mail received in just one day. The response from around the world was overwhelming.



Image from [Bubby's Journey Facebook Page](#)

Their happiness turned to sorrow on May 22nd when Brandi was handed an order for Bubby's removal, and given only 5 minutes to pack Bubby's clothes. The order claimed a "risk of imminent harm," although no details were given as to concerns for Bubby's safety. The Everson's are still trying to understand why Bubby was removed from their home.

They now fear that the volume of mail they received raised unwarranted concerns from CPS, due to a remark made by a social worker as to the amount of mail in their home. When a social worker showed up at the Everson's home after Brandi rescheduled a doctor's appointment for Bubby, Brandi said that the CPS worker seemed highly concerned over the amount of mail that was inside their home.

Two weeks after CPS' initial visit due to the rescheduled doctor's appointment, Bubby was taken by CPS and police

officers with no explanation other than a “risk of imminent harm.” (See: [Pierce County couple fights for custody of their son.](#))

“Two police officers knocked on the door,” said Brandi Everson. “Then three social workers came in. They handed me a piece of paper and said we have an order to take your child. I fell to my knees.”

Is Bubby’s Mom Being Accused of Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy in Order to Remove Bubby from Her Care?

On their Facebook page, [Bubby’s Journey](#), Brandi Everson shares a heart-wrenching emotional video and cries:

“Please, I want my baby home!”

She reads a letter that allegedly is looking for a foster parent for Bubby, because she is allegedly being accused of [Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy](#), a common (usually fake) diagnosis used today to remove children with medical needs from their family. ([Brief video here.](#))

Are Parents “Guilty Until Proven Innocent” Just Because CPS Says So?

In a 6 page report, CPS allegedly accused the Eversons of “medical abuse,” claiming that Bubby doesn’t have any fatal medical conditions and that the Eversons “fabricated illness” and that they are using their son, Bubby, and his

medical conditions to gain attention and money. (See: [Couple trying to get son back from DSHS after state alleged possible 'medical abuse by parents.'](#))

Brandi said, "Prove it. They have to provide evidence. They have the burden of proof. They have to provide evidence and we're going to take them to court if we absolutely have to."

Parents Deny Allegations of "Caregiver Fabricated Illness"

CPS claims that the Eversons fabricated Bubby's illnesses for attention and money, but the Eversons deny the allegations, saying he has never been abused or medically neglected, and that they are the best caretakers for their son. (See: [Parents respond to CPS allegations of abuse.](#))

Brandi Everson responds: "How can you fabricate a blood test? How can you fabricate a hearing test?"

"It's not like we made these up," said Thomas Everson, his father. "He sees a primary care physician but he also sees specialists. He has a team of specialists."

The Eversons were given a 2-hour supervised visit with Bubby on 5/26/15 at Tacoma hospital, a temporary home for Bubby.

"The moment we walked in the room he was happy," said Thomas Everson. "It was a good visit."



Image from [Bubby's Journey Facebook Page](#)

They also had a visit with Bubby on Friday 5/29/15. From this visit, the Eversons expressed concerns on their Facebook page:

This was not what we were hoping for our visit today. He was excited to see us and hugged Brandi first while yelling “mom”. But we documented several things about Bubby’s condition that were unacceptable. We noted 2 sets of dead batteries for his cochlear implant, so he couldn’t hear us in the visit and the social workers could not get any batteries, his g-tube site was inflamed and the gauze was dirty with dried oozing and some dried blood, there was no replacement gauze available, there were scratches, and a bruise on his arm, he was wearing a coat that wasn’t his that was too small for him, he was hungry and tired, and when we had to leave he was distressed and wanted to come with us to the point of crying. One of the hardest things you can ever do is walk away from your child when he is crying for you.

We documented everything and took photographs of our concerns. A very lengthy e-mail and the photos documenting the problems has been sent to the case worker, her supervisor and our attorney.

Support for Family Strong

The Everson’s continue to receive media attention, and local and International support in their fight to Bring Bubby Home. They have a court hearing today (June 1) in Tacoma Washington, and need as many supporters to turn out as possible. Here is the Facebook Event.



Tacoma Juvenile Court,

Remman Hall

5501 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

The Eversons stated on their [Facebook page](#):

“Our evidence will do nothing but overwhelm the court and show that we’ve done nothing wrong, and there is no “medical abuse”, in their terms, here. When all is said and done, we will be posting the allegations leveled against us, and the evidence refuting their egregious claims. Both CPS and Seattle Children’s Hospital will see that they’ve messed up. Get ready!”

The Governor of Washington is Jay Inslee. His office number is 360-902-4111. You can contact him [here](#).

Medically Kidnapped Children of Washington Parents Still not Returned - CPS Wants them Adopted



The three breast-fed children shortly before CPS took them away.

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

Three breastfed, homebirthed babies who were taken away from their parents by Child Protective Services in

Washington state more than a year ago are still not home, but their mother reports that she is very hopeful that they will be home soon.

The story of Erica May Carey and Cleave Rengo's children being taken by CPS was first reported by Health Impact News in November of 2014. Their heartbreaking story went viral and was read by more than 1.5 million people in less than 48 hours, leading to a national outcry. The governor of Washington reportedly received 6000 phone calls after the story was published.

Original story:

Breastfed, Homebirthed Babies Taken Away From Parents For Not Using Hospital

Twins Morna and Daniel and their brother Levi remain in a foster home in Washington. Initially placed in separate homes, the 3 siblings are now together in the same foster home. As recently as the last court hearing, a Bellingham social worker is still telling the court that the children should be adopted out.



Daniel Clemente from a recent visit. Source: Erica.

Health Issues in State Custody

Ironically, all 3 have eczema. Part of the original allegations against the parents was that Levi, then 10 months had eczema that his parents refused to treat. In reality, Erica May and Cleave were treating his eczema, but were using natural remedies such as herbal calendula cream and coconut oil. A social worker termed this medical neglect, since they didn't want to expose their son to the risk of steroids unless absolutely necessary. Yet, all 3 children have untreated eczema in state custody, and no one seems concerned.

After the children were abruptly weaned to formula, the twins developed gastric reflux, and Daniel had a feeding tube for awhile.

CPS reportedly wants Morna to have hip surgery, because “her hip pops.” Erica would much rather Morna be sent to a chiropractor to check it out before anything so drastic as surgery is done.



Morna Kai Grace at a recent visit. Source: Erica

Daniel’s heart murmur has reportedly returned. It

mysteriously went away during the few weeks in late 2014 that he was returned home, but is back now. Erica believes that it must be stress related, from being taken away from his family.

Levi is reported to have “behavioral problems,” “throwing tantrums and engaging in self-destructive behavior,” but his mother isn’t buying that. He had always been a happy, loving child when he was at home. According to Erica, these behavioral problems are because:

He misses his mom! He needs me. He has abandonment issues because they tore him away from me!



Levi in foster care. Source: Erica.

A Family Torn Apart

Previously we reported that CPS was demanding that Erica split up from Cleave as a condition of her getting her children back. Unfortunately, we have noticed that this is a trend with CPS, where parents are pitted against each other, and often told that the children can only come home if the parents break up or divorce.

See:

CPS Destroying Rengo Family: Demands Erica Separate from her Husband to Get Children Back

They felt that they had no choice. During this difficult time they discovered that Erica was again pregnant, but CPS had made it clear that the only way that either parent would have a chance to get the other 3 children back was if they separate.

They are no longer together, and are working on being friends for the sake of the children.

Erica made some big changes and relocated to be closer to some of her family members who could be there to help support her as she made the transition to single life and worked toward complying with all of the CPS conditions.

A Blessing in the Midst of the Pain

After she moved away from Bellingham, Erica was again near some of her relatives and has become involved in a good church. She was surrounded by love and support as she neared the time of the new baby's birth.

Like her other births, Erica May chose a homebirth. This time, she was without Cleave. Elijah was born during a storm on a full moon on October 29. Erica's mother, a childbirth educator and La Leche League leader who herself had homebirths, was her birth attendant. Erica describes a beautiful, glorious birth at her cousin's spa, surrounded by peaceful music, candlelight, fragrant frankincense and other soothing scents, and lots of love.



Erica and newborn Elijah after his “glorious” birth. Source: Erica

CPS has left Erica alone about this new baby, thankfully. She is completely in love with little Elijah, but:

There is this huge emptiness inside of me, and I miss my children.

Erica has been “completely compliant” with every demand placed on her by CPS. She has taken parenting classes, and is participating in the therapy and services they want her in. She has a new apartment that family and friends have helped her to pull together. For the second time, she has passed the home study with flying colors. The social worker where she lives now told her that the home study would be “glowing.”



Erica's apartment. Source: Erica.

Back and Forth in Foster Care

After the children were taken the first time on November 6, 2014, they were returned home on December 5, but there were so many conditions attached to their return that many who know how the system works said that Erica May and Cleave were being set up for failure. CPS remained completely enmeshed in their personal lives, despite the fact that the parents never abused or harmed their children.

Judge Allows Rengo Babies to go Home: But with Conditions, Calling CPS "Heroes"

Twins Morna Kai Grace and Daniel Clemente were just 5 weeks old when they were seized from their home. Levi was 10 months. All 3 babies had been breastfeeding, but were abruptly weaned and given formula. Erica May and Cleave

recognized that their children had been traumatized during the month they spent in foster care, and were trying to get life back on track, while complying with the CPS demands for classes, therapy, etc.

When they decided to get away from the stress for a little while by going to visit relatives in California, CPS interpreted that as the couple fleeing. They issued reports to media and police on the west coast to be on the lookout for the family, stopping just short of issuing an Amber Alert.

Breastfeeding Mother Arrested and Babies Taken Away by Force: The Parents' Side of the Story

When Cleave and Erica May learned of this, they turned around and headed back home. They had fully intended to be back for the next court hearing scheduled for February 10th. Police met them at a California gas station and forcibly removed Levi from his mother's breast.



Erica devastated as she was arrested and her babies taken from her. Photo courtesy of ksbw.com.

Erica was arrested and the children taken back to be placed in a Washington foster home. The charges were dropped, but the children were placed in foster care, where they have been ever since.

Currently, Erica gets one 15 minute Skype visit per week with her children. Cleave has even less time with the children.

New Judge

Erica reports that there is a new judge on her family's case. She has been told that the court will not discuss the case further or consider the children coming back home until he gets the In-Home Study report in his hands.

When Health Impact News spoke with Erica May this past weekend, she had more hope in her voice than in any previous conversation throughout this whole ordeal. She has people on her team who believe that success is imminent and that her children will be returned home soon. She believes that God has shown her in her prayers that they are coming home soon.

The hopes and prayers of many are with her that her children will be returned soon.

Falsely Accused Washington Couple Loses Medically Kidnapped Baby for Two Years



Alessandro is happy to be home. Source: Valenzuela family.

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

When Allison and Jesus Valenzuela of Olympia, Washington took their 5 month old son to the emergency room with a

seizure, they had no idea that their lives were about to be turned upside down. They were accused of shaken baby syndrome, and their son was seized from them by Child Protective Services on April 2, 2013.

To this day, they don't know what was wrong with Alessandro that day, or what is causing symptoms that he shows even now. There were early signs of problems that doctors dismissed. After they were accused of child abuse, the Valenzuelas found, like many other parents, that doctors stopped looking for the medical basis for their child's symptoms. The parents are still looking for answers.

After more than 2 years, Alessandro was returned to his parents who were cleared of all charges of child abuse. CPS is now completely out of their lives as of last month.

Allison describes what they went through as “a living hell.” She sent her heart-breaking story to Health Impact News, and we are publishing it in its entirety. She wants their voices to be heard.

A Common Medical Kidnapping Theme

Their story is very much like the stories that we receive on almost a daily basis here at Health Impact News. There are many common factors that the Valenzuelas' story has with that of countless other families all across the United States and other countries:

- They are parents who love their child very much.
- There was a medical incident, in their case – a seizure, which led them to take their child to the hospital.
- They were blindsided by accusations that they abused

their child.

- Child Protective Services seized custody, leaving a devastated family in their wake.
- The child still has medical issues, but after an accusation of abuse, doctors stopped looking for the actual medical cause.

Here is their story, beautifully written by Allison Valenzuela, with minor edits for grammar, and occasional editorial commentary:

I'm sure there are thousands of parents that struggle with being wrongfully accused of child abuse, struggling day to day just to have their silent voices heard. Sadly, we are one of those families.

Our son was born at 41 weeks. We went in for a regular fetal heart rate check when the nurses kept looking at the monitor and seemed a little nervous. I was about to ask if everything is ok, when they said that I would be admitted to the hospital and our son was going to be born soon. Being scared for our son's life, we agreed. I was in labor for 22 hours when finally the doctor came in and told us that, due to our son's heart beating irregularly, they needed to perform an emergency C-section.

Being scared, tired, and broken-hearted because I wanted a normal pregnancy, I broke down and cried and hesitantly agreed. I knew something was wrong when the doctors struggled for a while (not really sure how long due to being sedated) to get our son out of my abdomen area. I literally felt like they were ripping out my insides. It was the most horrible feeling ever, not knowing what was going on, laying

there scared. I started to cry, by then they used a vacuum [extractor] to pull our son out due to being stuck in my pelvic bones.

Note: Vacuum extraction has known risk factors to both mother and baby. According to the [Mayo clinic](#), vacuum extraction can cause “scalp wounds” on the baby, as well as “skull fracture” and “bleeding within the skull.”



Allison with baby Alessandro. Source: Valenzuela family.

Finally, our beautiful boy was born. We were so happy and everything that I had been currently going through was forgotten. I looked right into his eyes as he looked at me, and I said, “Hi, buddy. You’re so handsome. Welcome to this exciting world.”

After he was born, they did tests on him to make sure he was good to go home. Finally, after three long days in the hospital, we headed home.

Early Signs of Problems

When we arrived home, I couldn't help but have this feeling that something just wasn't right with our son's head. He seemed to have veins that would show easily on his forehead, and the back of his head seemed flat. When we took him to his check up after he was born, I mentioned to his primary care doctor at the time about his flat head. She did some tests, saying that he has low muscle tone and would refer us to see a physical therapist. Sadly, we didn't get that far. As far as the flat head went, the doctor said it would round out over time; not thinking much of it, we went home.



Newborn Alessandro. Source: Valenzuela family.

In March of 2012, we took a family vacation to California to see my husband's family. Everything went great. They loved seeing our son and spending time with him. It was a wonderful experience that we will never forget.

After 8 Vaccinations in one Doctor Visit, Something Was Wrong

Little did we know when we came back to Washington State

that our nightmare was just around the corner. We arrived home from our trip, and everything seemed normal up until a couple days later, when we noticed our son was not acting like his normal, easy-going self.

Note: Vaccination records show that Alessandro received the 8 vaccinations in one doctor visit on March 28th when they returned to Washington. His situation became so severe, that the parents had to take him into the emergency room a few days later.

He usually loved being held, and when I would go to pick him up, he didn't want any part of me or my husband. He usually loved to eat, but when we would try to feed him, he turned away and didn't eat anything.

We decided to take him for a walk in his stroller, but we had to quickly return home because it seemed that every little bump was bothering him. By then we were both very concerned and decided to take him to see his doctor the next day. Unfortunately, we never made it there.

Later that night when my husband was feeding our son, he still seemed very irritable, but he did eat, which we thought was great. When my husband went to go burp our son, he noticed that he was very lethargic, and started to cry out a long horrible moan/cry. He would breathe in and cry normal. Then when he exhaled, he would start to moan. By then we noticed his eyes rolled into the back of his head and he would stiffen up, then become very weak, like holding putty in your hands.

To the Emergency Room

By then we were out the door and going to the closest hospital here in Olympia, [Washington], which was Capital Medical Center, which was our first huge mistake.

As soon as we arrived, I ran to the emergency room holding our son when I was greeted by the rudest person I have met. I told her our son couldn't breathe and was having a seizure. I of course was crying uncontrollably, while trying to explain to her what was going on. She just looked at me with a sort of emotionless expression and said, "Ma'am, you need to stop crying and tell us what's wrong with your son." I couldn't believe what I had just heard, so I calmed down enough to explain to her what was going on, and they still made us wait in the lobby while our son was fighting for his life.

Finally, a nurse came out to take our son in the back. From there everything that happened seemed like a blur, or a bad dream that we couldn't wake up from. They had him hooked up to several machines while he was still having a seizure and crying. He then started to projectile vomit, and the nurses were rushing to put him on his side so that he didn't choke.

Accused of Shaken Baby Syndrome

When the seizures finally stopped and they were able to stabilize our son, they told us that he needed to be transferred to a children's hospital in Tacoma Mary Bridge. It was surprising that they told us anything, from the dirty looks they were giving us and talking to one another like they

were telling each other secrets.

They transported our son in an ambulance and we quickly followed in our car headed to Mary Bridge in Tacoma. Little did we know that CPS (Child Protection Services) was waiting for us there.

When we arrived at the hospital, they quickly hooked our son up to monitors and machines to help him breathe. Seeing breathing tubes being placed on your 5 month old child is a sight that I wish on no one. It was the most heart wrenching thing I have seen in all my life. They had our son in the room where they were watching him, and then they told us to wait outside until they could find a room for our son, so we waited.

After what seemed like forever, they finally told us they had a room for our son and for us to follow him there, so we did. We spent the night, both of us passed out on the couch, waiting to hear of what could have caused our son to have a seizure as horrible as the one he just had.

Parents Interrogated by Police, Never Arrested

We were then greeted by three Olympia Police department detectives, two males and one female. Confused, we didn't know what was going on until they said they needed to ask us some questions and that was it.

They started with my husband first. The two male detectives taking my husband to a room away from where we were, and leaving me with the female detective. It was about an

hour later until I finally realized that it was my turn. They wouldn't let my husband in the room or around our son. They proceeded to escort me to the same room where they had interrogated my husband. When they proceeded to ask me how our son acquired those injuries and had the seizure, I simply told them the truth, "I don't know."

After about an hour of questions and pulling the good cop bad cop routine, I told them the only way that our son could have those injuries was when I fell with my son in my arms when I was trying to feed him when he was first born. I explained in detail that, when he was around 3 months old, I was very tired and had to feed our son, I stupidly placed my left foot on his bassinet which had wheels. I lost my balance and fell with Alessandro in my arms. After I fell, I immediately checked to see if he was OK and informed my husband who was at work on a 24 hour shift, letting him know that I had just fallen with Alex in my arms. I had also texted my sister of the event and told her about the accident and how nervous I was, and stupid for not paying attention.

Child Protective Services Seizes Baby

Well, the detectives didn't believe my story. They quickly shrugged it off and stated, "Well, we know that you didn't hit your child, but you know who did, and you're lying. You're a liar!" That's when I got angry and said, "Look, I know my husband wouldn't hit our son, and I know I didn't do anything. We love our son." They quickly gave each other smug looks and proceeded to tell me, "Your son is now in the care of CPS and you need to leave the hospital immediately."

Being alone, not knowing where my husband was, and confused and scared about the situation that had unfolded in

front of my eyes, I quickly went downstairs in search of my husband. It literally felt like hours before I had realized that he was looking for me, too, and finally we met up where the car was and proceeded to go home. Being exhausted and distraught about everything that had happened, we both didn't speak much on the drive back.

Jumping Through the Hoops

That's when all the countless court appearances happened and supervised visits, as well as being dragged through the mud, going to classes that were meant for druggies and abusers, as well as having a psychological evaluation done and an anger management evaluation done as well. It was the most degrading thing we have ever had to do.

Conflicting Story about Shaken Baby Syndrome by Doctor

Our poor son had to endure countless doctor appointments where the doctors stayed neutral about his injuries. They said that the injuries he sustained didn't match up to shaken baby syndrome, and they don't know what happened for him to have the subdural hematomas.

It wasn't until when we met the second foster parent that she actually tried to advocate for us and heard exactly what the doctor had said, about his injuries not matching those of SBS. When confronted by the foster parent, the doctor quickly changed his mind and said, "I never said that, and his injuries were due to SBS." After hearing that, the foster

parent was furious and said to us, “I know what I heard. I’m not an idiot.” My husband and I knew that CPS probably got involved and talked to the doctor.

To make matters worse, a couple of months later, they then switched our son to another foster parent.



Source: Valenzuela family.

Actually, there are a number of doctors and scientists who question the entire concept of “shaken baby syndrome.” Child abuse protocols often still focus on the “triad” of symptoms in diagnosing SBS – subdural hematomas, retinal hemorrhaging, and brain swelling, even in the absence of other symptoms that would be expected if a child were shaken so hard as to cause brain injury. Notably, neck injury would be expected; however, neither Alessandro, nor countless other babies whose parents or caregivers were accused of harming them, had any sign of neck injury or bruising.

Dr. Mohammed Ali Al-Bayati wrote a paper entitled [Shaken Baby or Medical Malpractice?](#) in which he wrote of cases with which he had been involved:

My findings clearly show that the shaken baby ‘syndrome’ (SBS) theory is not supported by science. The SBS theory has been applied since the early 1970’s in cases of babies and toddlers who suffer from subdural and/or retinal bleeding when they do not exhibit signs of external injuries. My investigation of the four alleged SBS cases noted above revealed that the treating physicians and medical examiners were negligent, as they did not carry out proper medical investigations in order to find the factual causes of the bleeding in tissues.

See: [Are Parents Going to Jail for Vaccine Injuries?](#)

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

[Is Shaken Baby Syndrome Often Misdiagnosed and Caused by Vaccine-Induced Rickets?](#)

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

Allison continues to describe their story of how the accusation of SBS dearly cost her family:

Dedicated Soldier Loses His Career

By that time in this case, my husband had no choice but to leave the Army. With all of the countless appointments they made him go to and the supervised visits, he had no choice but to get out. My husband was an outstanding soldier and loves the military. Because of this case, the 8 years and 3 months he served was gone before his eyes.

Are Military Families Targets for CPS?

When this case first happened they tried to blame my husband right away for everything, because of him being a soldier. They told us that people in the military tend to have short tempers and come home stressed from work, then take it out on their families.

That couldn't be farther from the truth. My husband is a very caring and loving man who would do anything for his family,

and he would never do anything to cause harm against me or our son.

Here in Washington State, it seems they love to pick on the military. They say supposedly that they love the military, but going through what we went through and seeing countless times of other men in uniform coming out of the CPS office, they love to prey on military families.

Numerous Surgeries, But Few Answers

Our son in his three years of living has had more surgeries and doctor appointments than anyone I know. When he had the seizures back when this living hell started, they had to place a shunt so the bleeding would stop and the pressure would be off of his brain. He also had eye surgery, because his right eye would look inward. He has also seen countless “specialists” that supposedly know what they are doing, but when it comes to our son, they have no idea what’s wrong with him or why he was born with so many problems.

When he was first born his head was very flat, and when I spoke to the doctor about it, they said it would round out. When CPS got involved, we never had a chance to ask the doctor about his head being flat. By the time CPS wanted to make him wear a helmet, it was too late, and his skull had already began to fuse together, making the helmet useless and our son being stuck with a flat head for the rest of his life.

To this day, the doctors still don’t know what caused the subdural hematomas that made him have a seizure. CPS is still claiming SBS, but thankfully the charges from the Olympia police department were dropped against my

husband and me.

Relatives Lied to About Alessandro's Condition, Creating Rifts in Family

The part that hurts the worst was when the detective went and talked to our families and told them lies about the condition of our son, telling my husband's family that lives in California that he had a broken wrist, broken ribs, and was bruised all over.

Note: Medical reports showed that Alessandro never had any fractures. Doctors performed full body x-rays, in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines, but the results showed no fractures.

They proceeded to tell the same story to my family. Luckily, my dad didn't believe their lies, but my sister did, ripping apart both of our families for two plus years. I'm still not speaking to my sister because of this situation, and we are just now communicating with my husband's family again.

CPS Breaks Families Financially

To make matters worse, when my husband had to get out of the military, it made our financial situation horrible. Before this case, we had two cars. We were paying off all of our bills and doing great; when this case hit, we had to get rid of both cars, and we are in debt at least \$60,000 because they wanted to charge us child support for taking our son away,

which was \$600.00 a month. I have never in my life heard of something so crazy as that.

Son Returned, But Scars Remain

We had to give up a lot in order to get our son back. Thankfully June 12th 2015 he was placed in our care full time. Even though the judge made it clear that she believes one of us inflicted harm on our son and made us feel like crap, she still granted us custody. I have been called a lot of things in my life, but for someone to sit there not knowing the whole story as to what happened to our son and call both my husband and me child abusers, it hurts and it pisses you off, but you can't say anything.



Alessandro is home at last. Source: Valenzuela family.

Breaking the Silence – “Don’t Give Up”

It took a while for us to actually get someone to listen to our story. For two plus years we have suffered in silence, and no one would listen when we tried to get our voice heard. Then, finally someone listened, and now I get to share my experience with others, letting them know that no matter how difficult it is dealing with CPS and all the bullshit classes and psychological evaluations they put you through, having unconditional love for your child and not letting these monsters tear you down, there is always hope, and being strong in a situation where you literally have no one will

make you a better person and a better parent. Finally, our silent voices are heard, breaking our silent suffering.

To other parents out there, don't give up on your children. Keep fighting, and fight hard. Don't let them break you. We have fought until the very end and lost everything, but we kept fighting for our son and didn't give in to them. Our son is now home with us, and even though we literally had to give up our lives in order to get him home, it was worth every struggle.

Still Don't Know What Is Wrong

To this day, the doctors don't know what caused our son to have the seizure, although he did receive shots right before that day when he got sick. We are still researching to see if there is anything that could have led up to Alessandro getting sick. Our questions are still unanswered.

The Valenzuelas' case was closed by CPS in February. According to a court report, allegations against the parents of physical abuse were "determined to be unfounded." However, the CPS case against the Valenzuelas centered on the accusation that they "failed to protect" Alessandro from his injuries.

The parents question how it is that they were expected to protect against injuries that were caused by real medical conditions? The doctors were the ones that they counted on to figure out what was going on with their child.

However, to date, the Valenzuelas do not know what caused

their son's seizures, or what continues to cause his poor muscle tone. Alessandro still has a flat head as well. They are looking for answers.

They were given a recommendation to take Alessandro to another doctor within the same hospital that medically kidnapped their son more than 2 years ago. Not surprisingly, they are reluctant to go that route. They are hoping to find another doctor who can help them to finally learn what is wrong with Alessandro.

The Valenzuelas are one family among thousands who have been falsely accused of abusing their child by shaking him.

Fortunately, they got him back. But the emotional heartache of having their son ripped away from them and spending more than 2 years with someone else will never go away.

Like most parents we talk with, Allison broke into tears as she described the trauma of those 2 years. Those are years they will never get back. They were broken financially, and Jesus' career was destroyed. Family relationships remain shaky, all over accusations about what many call the "junk science" of shaken baby syndrome.

They are not alone.

These are just some of the similar stories we have covered:

[Dr. Phil Exposes Medical Kidnapping and Shaken Baby Syndrome False Diagnosis with North Carolina Family](#)

[South Carolina Family has Children Medically Kidnapped Based on Wrong Diagnosis from Child Abuse Specialist](#)

[Accusations of Shaken Baby Syndrome in Tennessee Destroys Family - Lands Parents in Jail](#)

[Will Massachusetts Doctor Send Another Innocent Parent to Prison Over Shaken Baby Syndrome Accusation?](#)

[Oklahoma City Parents Lose Their 2 Children to CPS Due to "Shaken Baby" Allegation](#)

[Baby Found with Broken Bones - Parents Assumed Guilty of Abuse and Lose Custody](#)

[Medical Kidnapping in Pennsylvania: Parents of Baby with Rickets Accused of Abuse](#)

[Maryland Father Accused of Abuse over Broken Bones - Both Children Removed from Home of Loving Parents](#)

[Same Doctor Behind Two Wrongly Convicted Shaken Baby Cases in Massachusetts](#)

Mother Who had Son Medically Kidnapped Runs for Office in Washington State



A glowing Anne Giroux filed for candidacy on May 20 at the Secretary of State Office building at Washington's State Capitol in Olympia. Source: Anne Giroux.

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

Having a child medically or legally kidnapped by the state is one of the most difficult things that a family could ever experience, as many parents tell us every day. Parents tell us that there is nothing that compares to the despair and hopelessness of being powerless to protect one's children when Child Protective Services takes over. The system seems designed to break down both parent and child, and some who have fallen prey never recover from the devastation.

Anne Giroux is a mother who has lived through this trauma, and has decided to turn her experiences into something that can help and inspire other families.

Like countless other families, she knows that it can be difficult in such situations to maintain hope. Instead of bringing answers, each new day can further struggles and more hoops to jump through, in the never-ending attempt to prove to social workers, GALs, attorneys, and judges that they really care about their children and are good parents. Parents feel alone. They feel shame. They are beaten down and made to feel worthless.

But they are not worthless. They matter, and their children matter.

Whether the children are ever returned, or whether they are adopted out to someone else, the trauma remains. Parents and children alike often battle symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress for years after CPS gets out of their lives. They are forever changed. They will carry the scars with them for the rest of their lives.

In this all-too-common scenario, it is easy to lose purpose. It is easy to give up. But that only deepens the despair.

Not too long ago, that was the place where Anne Giroux found herself. Her teenage son was medically kidnapped after doctors accused her of Munchausen syndrome by proxy. Somehow, the allegations went, she was powerful enough to convince experienced surgeons to do open heart surgery on her son. She was accused of somehow causing his heart attack in order to get attention. According to the evidence, it looks more like the allegations against her were more about possibly covering up medical malpractice than about

anything that she did.

See their story:

Was Medical Kidnap in Washington State a Cover-up for Medical Malpractice?

Though their case was eventually dismissed, the false label of Munchausen by proxy stuck with her, hindering her ability to keep her job or to find another one in the same health-related field. Like numerous other parents falsely accused of Munchausen syndrome by proxy, Anne found that people's perceptions of her changed, even though the state has dismissed the charges against her. That label affects her and her children's ability to get appropriate healthcare. It has cost Anne Giroux her home and livelihood.



Anne's son Kevin Kulman shows his scars from his heart surgery. Source: [YouTube video](#).

Now, Anne has found a way to turn all of that into something that can help her community. She is running for local office. When she realized that candidates have the ability to have their voices heard as they speak out about their platform, she decided to learn how to run for office. She has taken the bull by the horns and is now an official candidate for Legislative District 28 for the office of State Representative Position 1.

She could have allowed the \$475 filing fee to stop her, but Washington State allows potential candidates to collect signatures in lieu of paying the fee – each signature on her petition stood for \$1 of the fee. Anne Giroux found that she was quickly able to get many of the needed signatures to reduce the amount that she had to pay. She stood outside of her local Trader Joe's telling her story and gathering signatures and support.

A blogger at [Corrupt Washington](#) writes:

This young gal needs to be a candidate AND a YouTube story. She has endured so much as a single parent who is up against the “good ole boys club,” which is intent in destroying her to cover-up their misconduct and malpractice. She doesn't give up in taking on the establishment. Anne is the type of person we want in our legislature!

Anne is certainly an outsider to “politics as usual” and lends a fresh voice to the slate of candidates running for office. She has experienced the corruption of the CPS system and foster care up-close and personally, and has determined that, if she is elected, she will make a difference. She vows to listen to the voice of the people and promises to “protect individual rights as governments are required to do under

Article 1, Section 1 of the [Washington State Constitution](#):”

All political power is inherent in the people, and governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, and are established to protect and maintain individual rights.



Anne Giroux in front of the Legislative Building, Olympia, Washington – taking her message to the people. Source: Anne Giroux.

Like most of the parents whose stories are covered by Medical Kidnap, Anne Giroux has seen firsthand the devastation that unchecked political power can have. She understands that innocent parents can be victimized by the system, and innocent children with loving parents can be used as pawns by those in power. And she has decided that she is going to fight back.

Even if she doesn't win, she says she still has the opportunity to inform voters about the corruption that is happening. She also has the opportunity to challenge other political candidates to make Child Protective Services and foster care part of the conversation.

Anne will have the opportunity to communicate her message to the public in a candidate forum on June 9, 2016, at 6pm in which about half of the questions will come from the audience. Questions will also come from social media, and the forum is to be live-tweeted. The location is to be announced.

She writes:

I have filled for public office and it is my duty to show my community my heartfelt willingness to assume many roles true to heart, responsibly and with the intent to be a positive inspiring influence and not control. I would like to take the series of unfortunate events experienced and convert them into transitional skills that would make me more successful in addressing many issues with caring action, such as an audit and reform in CPS DSHS , Family Law, and begin to address issues surrounding the false allegations of Munchausen By Proxy Syndrome because countless children have been wrongfully and forcibly taken away from their families ruining lives and all of this can also help pave a way

for other necessary improvements for community and all. I may not win the election but my honest valid attempt to try is a win in my heart.

If I can inspire others to want to covert negative to positive by becoming more involved within their own community then that too is a win for us all. May the highest good come!

We congratulate Anne Giroux for taking this bold step in using the things she has learned through hardship and pain for the greater good of serving her community. She inspires us.

Rogue Washington Doctor Intent on Medically Kidnapping Child - Parents Forced to get Restraining Order Against Doctor

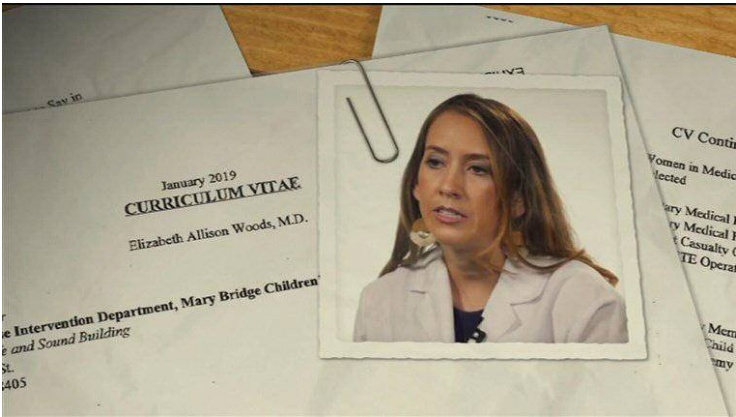


Photo provided by NBC News

Physician will stop at nothing to separate a mother from her child – Leads a family to get a restraining order

**Commentary by Allie Parker
Health Impact News**

What can a family do when they become the target of a rogue physician who has no oversight and cannot be held accountable for their actions? You file for a restraining order.

This may seem like an extreme act, especially against a physician, the ones who are supposed to be dedicated to helping others. Unfortunately, recent national media investigations and research have produced several stories involving hundreds of families who were targeted by physicians in a sub-specialty known as Child Abuse Pediatrics (CAP).

The laws vary from state to state, but they all provide immunity for these physicians and sometimes for anyone who is involved in the investigation of suspected child abuse, whether the actions are malice or even illegal.

It has become more evident this lack of accountability has caused some physicians in the field of “diagnosing” child abuse to lose sight of reality and become outright devious toward a family or individual they suspect as being a child abuser, even when there is no evidence to support their theory.

One form of child abuse on the rise is medical child abuse, formerly Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy. In this type of abuse, the abuser falsifies symptoms or deliberately makes a child sick in order to get unnecessary and sometimes life threatening medical treatment.

A lot of the recent cases being diagnosed and investigated as medical child abuse have more evidence against the accusation than in support of it. This evidence consists of medical records and reports by the treating physicians and specialists, nurses and other family members who have either witnessed the claims made by the parent or caretaker, or have medical evidence that supports the history given by the parent or caretaker.

Unfortunately, once a CAP makes any accusation of abuse, the opinions of other doctors are usually disregarded despite having more training in the medical conditions and diseases responsible for a child's injury or illness.

It has now come to a point where an accusing physician does not need the additional training required to become board certified in Child Abuse Pediatrics that allows such a dominant opinion over other physicians and specialists.

By simply claiming to have "experience" and "expertise" qualifies them to make abuse accusations with such certainty and credibility, which leads to a child being removed from their family.

Doctor Lies About her Credentials and Experience Under Oath



The Carter Family. Photo from NBC News.

In a recent [story](#) by Mike Hixenbaugh with NBC News and Taylor Mirfendereski with KING5, the Carter family, of Tacoma, Washington, was blindsided when a doctor accused Megan Carter, a mother of two children, of medical child abuse.

In the doctor's report, [according to NCB News and KING5](#),

“Ellie Carter is a victim of medical child abuse. This is life threatening, and she is at imminent risk if her mother is involved in her care.”

The doctor, who is considered the state's “pre-eminent expert in identifying subtle signs of child abuse,” made several false and misleading statements to the family, and the court, about her medical background and training.

Elizabeth Woods, the pediatrician who made the accusation, was hired by Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, late 2017, to be the medical director of the hospital's child abuse intervention team. Previous to this, her [curriculum vitae \(CV\)](#) claims she spent over ten years in the Army.

It was this time in the Army where, according to NBC and KING5,

“Woods testified in Carter's case that she became an expert through firsthand experience.”

The reporters reviewed court records and found not only did Woods lack the medical training for assessing potential abuse, she testified under oath,

“The training just started about three years ago.”

This was a false statement made under oath. The training to become board certified in child abuse pediatrics began in 2009. According to Woods’ CV, she was still in medical school in at that time.

Woods’ false and misleading testimony didn’t stop with her qualifications. NBC and KING5 report Woods’ testimony as stating,

“There are approximately 250 of us nationwide that function as child abuse consultants and a very small minority of those have received training.”

But, the reporters found there are more than 375 child abuse pediatricians certified by the American Board of Pediatrics in the U.S., and at least three physicians in Washington State have met the qualifications to become board certified.

Woods is not one of them.

The story also reports four cases reviewed by the reporters where CPS took children from parents in which Woods misstated key facts, and there were contradictory opinions from other medical experts who said they saw no evidence of abuse.

Despite these other medical expert opinions and Woods’ lack of training and board certification, CPS and law enforcement in Washington continue to allow Woods’ incredible influence over their decisions to remove children from their homes

and pursue criminal charges.

Dr. Niran Al-Agba, a pediatrician in Washington, and one of the contradictory opinions in one of the cases, is quoted as saying,

“That’s what bothers me so much about this whole case is that they wrote they took her opinion because she has extensive training. Where’s the extensive training? I’m still dumbfounded.”

She isn’t the only one dumbfounded.

The Carters continued to wonder how and why their lives were sent into a nightmare by the claims of one doctor. But the claims of abuse were not the only things Woods did against this family; they were just the beginning.

Difficult Premature Birth Leads to Medical Intervention

Ellie Carter was in and out of Mary Bridge since birth when she was born severely premature at 24 weeks. This resulted in Ellie having developmental delays and chronic health problems, which include serious breathing and digestive difficulties, all confirmed by medical doctors at Mary Bridge by way of medical records.

After **four years** of treatment by doctors at Mary Bridge, it wasn’t until around five months after Woods started as director of the child protection team that any concerns ever arose regarding the care and treatment she was receiving from her mother, a former nurse and stay-at-home-mom.

Woods started at Mary Bridge around November 2017. In the spring of 2018, CPS first entered the Carters' lives when they showed up at Ellie's hospital room, where she was being hospitalized for an infection, and told Ms. Carter concerns have been raised about her ability to continue caring for her daughter. Weeks passed and nothing ever came of this initial report.

By early May, 2018, Ellie was still being hospitalized while her body continued to fight the infection. It was at this time Woods requested to speak with Mrs. Carter to inform her she was no longer allowed to be alone with her daughter due to:

“Unresolved concerns about Ellie’s medical care, and a nurse or other hospital, medical staff would supervise her at all times, and the room would be monitored by video.”

The supervision and video surveillance went on for another six weeks while Ellie continued to be hospitalized. She was starting to show signs of recovery when social workers showed up again wanting to speak with Mr. and Mrs. Carter privately.

The Carters were taken to another room where two police officers were waiting to escort Mrs. Carter out of the hospital.

Unbeknownst to the Carters, Woods had contacted CPS again, claiming Ellie was,

“A confirmed victim of medical child abuse,” reports NBC and KING5.

The reporters go on to explain that in the message Woods gave to the authorities she had video evidence of Mrs. Carter tampering with her daughter's medicine, yet no one explained this to the parents at that time.

This accusation led a judge to grant CPS request to place Ellie and her older brother into protective custody. The court order stated Mrs. Carter would not be allowed to live in the same home as her children and could not be around them unless she was supervised.

After Ellie was finally discharged, the family continued to cooperate with the court order.

Unfortunately, Woods wasn't satisfied with the court order prompting her to write CPS officials and the prosecutor assigned to the case, recommending them to restrict Mrs. Carter's contact with her children even more. Woods' recommendation was to not allow Mrs. Carter any contact with her children, but the authorities refused.

According to NBC and KING5, Woods wrote,

“My request was for a change in supervision to a no contact order which I was informed could not be granted.”

Woods, intent on keeping the family separated based on her opinion alone, with no other physician or hospital staff that knew the family and treated Ellie for the previous 4 years, now set her focus on Mr. Carter by trying to get him to stop contact with his wife.

Woods' plan for achieving her new goal was by using the alleged video evidence again in the hope Mr. Carter would

turn on his wife.

According to the [news story](#), Woods contacted Mr. Carter directly while Ellie was still in the hospital claiming she had video proof of his wife committing a crime, but she wouldn't elaborate on these accusations, nor would she show him the alleged video evidence.

Finally, Woods told Mr. Carter the hospital would not discharge Ellie into his care unless he obtained a restraining order against his wife. This would accomplish Woods' goal of Mrs. Carter having no contact with her children.

Woods, without having any of this alleged video evidence, continued to try to manipulate Mr. Carter by telling him the court order obtained by CPS wasn't good enough and his wife was dangerous.

Mr. Carter recalled, along with notes Woods had written regarding this conversation, he was told by Woods,

“Even while supervised, Carter could hurt Ellie with a doctored glass of water or piece of candy.”

Reporters found other cases where Woods made accusations and recommendations that went beyond her role as a doctor.

In one case she claimed to know who committed the abuse despite having no admission or evidence to support the claim.

In another case that involved twins, Woods concluded the only way the twins' injuries could have occurred other than

abuse was by a motor vehicle collision. Yet, three other physicians who reviewed the case all concluded the same thing, which was the twins suffered from a mineral deficiency that led to weak bones and easy fractures.

In the case that involved Dr. Al-Agba, where Woods made her finding of abuse based solely on photos and never having examined the child, CPS notes indicate Woods reported having 14 years of experience related to child abuse. The agency cited this fact in its decision to classify the marks as inflicted, but 14 years prior to this allegation Woods was still in medical school, not a graduate of medical school, and certainly not a licensed physician.

NBC and KING5 reported Dr. Al-Agba questioned the claims of Woods' experience and raised concerns about her lack of training with officials at both CPS and Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, both of which brushed Dr. Al-Agba's concerns aside.

A year went by with the Carter family being separated when they finally got to trial where, for four days, Woods testified she believed, "all of Ellie's medical issues" were the result of medical abuse.

Despite Ellie being born so premature and requiring medical care, Woods continued to claim only Mrs. Carter witnessed Ellie's seizures, and Ellie had been weaned off her anti-seizure medicine; medical records show otherwise.

Under oath, Woods testified Ellie "wolfed down" a McDonald's Happy Meal after Mrs. Carter was removed from the hospital.

Upon cross examination, Woods finally admitted she didn't

witness the Happy Meal incident, and she couldn't provide the name of the hospital staff member who had.

To the contrary, other members of the medical staff testified they did not believe Ellie would have eaten a whole Happy Meal, because she continued to have difficulty eating months after Mrs. Carter was removed from Ellie's care.

There is still the alleged video surveillance evidence Woods claimed proved Mrs. Carter was abusing Ellie. Woods testified the video showed Mrs. Carter,

“Secretly dumping medication from a syringe after pretending to administer it.”

When lawyers played the video for the doctor who supervised Ellie's care, along with other witnesses, they all agreed the video showed no such thing.

Also, there were two members of the hospital staff in the room at the time of this alleged incident, neither of which reported any wrongdoing by Mrs. Carter.

The case had overwhelming evidence, but the evidence didn't support the allegation of abuse made by Woods. It did show overwhelming evidence Woods misled CPS, and the courts, with her false reports, and continued to mislead the courts with her false testimony.

The judge agreed Woods was being dishonest and misleading when she wrote in [her 26-page report](#), provided by NBC and KING5, dismissing the case against the Carters, and “rebuked the doctor who initiated it.”

The judge wrote,

“Most of Woods’ testimony was without factual bases.”

And, Woods’ conclusions were,

“Not plausible” and “speculations at best.”

Restraining Order Against Doctor Needed

It took only two weeks after the judge dismissed the case against the Carters, while admonishing Woods with the report, that the Carters received a knock at their door.

A worker with CPS and a police officer were waiting outside their home.

The worker told the Carters CPS had received **two** new reports from members of the child abuse intervention team at Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital, but Ellie hadn’t been seen or treated by anyone at the hospital for more than six months.

This report stated Mrs. Carter was giving Ellie unnecessary oxygen treatments, but medical and billing records prove Ellie hasn’t received oxygen treatments in more than a year.

Because the laws protect the identity of those who make reports to CPS, the worker could not answer the Carters when they inquired about who made this report.

All the worker could say was it came from a **pediatrician on the hospital’s child abuse team. Woods is the only physician who matches that description.**

The physician who made the report didn't stop with the oxygen treatments, but also told CPS, "There is a long history of medical child abuse," and urged CPS to bring Ellie to Mary Bridge for an evaluation.

The Carters refused and showed the authorities the dismissal paperwork from the court which led to the CPS worker and officer leaving without any action.

Mr. Carter then contacted his attorney and decided it was time to take out a restraining order against Woods.

What could happen to Doctor Woods?

After all the Carter family went through when one physician decided to commit a long list of medically unethical and illegal actions, the physician is still covered by total immunity from both civil and criminal liability.

Even if Woods receives reprimand or disciplinary action from Mary Bridge, it doesn't guarantee she will receive disciplinary action from the [Washington Medical Commission](#), the medical board that governs and gives medical licenses to physicians for the state of Washington.

Unfortunately, because every state has their own licensing board, if a physician has a disciplinary action taken against them, or even has their license revoked completely by the state's medical board, they can simply move to another state, apply for a new license, and because there is rarely a background check done, a new license is given allowing the physician to start practicing as if nothing happened.

How many families are being devastated by child abuse pediatricians, or any physician for that matter, who act with

this type of misconduct, have disciplinary actions or termination from a hospital, but simply move to another state and start practicing with a clean slate?

How many physicians are providing false information on their CV so they can become the director of a team and be given so much credibility by hospital staff, CPS, law enforcement and the courts?

It is clear there needs to be oversight and accountability for child abuse pediatricians and anyone claiming to have “expertise” and “experience” in the field. This sub-specialty has become a runaway train with no one questioning how or when it will stop because it continues to claim it is essential and beneficial for the protection of children.

Separating a child from a loving family is, in itself, considered abuse and causes harm to the child and the family unit.

If you or someone you know has been harmed by a physician, you can file a complaint with your state’s licensing board. To get information for your state, the AAPA has provided a [list of licensing boards by state](#).

“What I fear most is power with impunity. I fear abuse of power, and the power to abuse.”-Isabel Allende

About the Author



Allie Parker is a Family Advocate and mother. She is a surviving victim of a false Child Abuse Pediatrician's accusation. Read [her story here](#).

Washington Couple Harassed Over Medical Marijuana Use - Children Kidnapped and Allegedly Scheduled for Adoption



Zurius and Riley

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

For the last two years, 22-year-old Sophia Rosas, and her 23-year-old fiancé, Sean Kilkenny, have been living a nightmare in Bremerton, Washington.

Like so many other families in this country, Sophia and Sean have been subjected to the corruption of Child Protection Services. Between assessments and services that never get done because social workers fail to schedule them correctly or won't accept them, and unending demands for such services, the delay tactics of corruption are full blown in this family's case.

The epitome of the warnings were shouted from people like Senator Nancy Schaefer and former CPS investigator, Carlos Morales, and it is clear to anyone looking at the case with an experienced eye that the full intention of Kitsap County Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) is to push an adoption train to the end goal.

Adoption incentives provide bonuses, stipends, and a pretty paycheck for the State at the end of the year.

[https://youtu.be/ TcDTJIPWbE](https://youtu.be/TcDTJIPWbE)

<https://youtu.be/s5dHM76OSts>

What started as a freak accident for 2-year-old Zurius, during a fun activity with his mom's fiancé, Sean, has turned into these parents' worst nightmare.

Almost two years of jumping through fiery hoops of unnecessary assessments and services, on the threat of losing forever the most precious treasure in their world – their children – Sophia and Sean have finally had enough.

They can see the track they are on currently will only lead to adoption of both children, and these young parents are now desperate for help to save their family.



Zurius and Riley

On November 25th, 2018, Zurius was taken to Silverdale Harrison Hospital in Bremerton, Washington, for a spiral fracture of his arm.

Not yet knowing the exact cause of her son's injury, and with Sean at work, Sophia attempted to explain to hospital staff that it may have occurred while he was potty training on the toilet, as that is where he first started complaining about the pain the night before.

Sean had frantically ran out from the bathroom that night, where he was helping Zurius learn to potty train, because Zurius was upset about his arm and wouldn't calm down. Sophia had given him ibuprofen and put him back to bed, intent on taking him to the doctor in the morning.

When she awoke in the morning, Zurius' arm was swollen

and purple, so she immediately took him to the hospital. It wasn't until after hospital staff placed an emergency hold on Zurius, because the description of events did not match the break so there was concern of child abuse, and made Sophia leave the hospital without her son, that Sophia and Sean realized that the fracture probably occurred when he had landed wrong after being thrown in the air and caught by Sean, an activity that many parents do with their small children.



Social workers interviewed Sophia a couple days later, where she attempted to tell them what they now believed happened to Zurius. The social workers took this as the story changing and Sophia not being truthful, which led Sophia into a dependency case with the local Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) office.

Sophia was “founded” by the Department to have failed to protect Zurius, and Sean was “founded” of child abuse. Neither parent was charged with any crime, neither was given a trial to determine the truth of the matter, and neither were aware of their option to appeal the Department’s decisions.

Instead, Sophia ended up in the Kitsap County Juvenile Court, where a shelter care hearing that was supposed to be completed (per Washington State Law) within 72 hours, was extended again and again, finally resuming more than a month later.

During this time, Sophia was repeatedly coerced by a public defender into signing a safety plan and completing assessments for the department, while her son was placed with his maternal aunt while in State custody. As Sean is not the biological father of Zurius, he was not involved in these proceedings or safety plan.

Once Sophia finally agreed to the dependency, believing, like so many others, she had no other options to get her son home other than comply, life went on – as Sophia struggled to balance her medical conditions and demands of the department, with only weekly visitations with her son.

Almost a year later, on November 21, 2019, Sophia and Sean were blessed with the birth of Baby Riley.



Sean, Sophia, and Riley



Zurius was still living with his maternal aunt, and the permanency plan of the court was still Return Home. Sophia was still attempting to complete the required services from the department, but she says that every time she completed something it was like “another hoop went up in the air for her to jump through.”

After Riley was born, the social worker in charge of the case

at the time, Tina Whitney, placed Riley on an emergency hold, pending a dependency petition against both parents. Like a tragic deja vu from the previous year, Sophia and Sean were escorted from the hospital once again, without their baby.

The only reason for the removal was because of the open CPS case with Zurius.

After another round of extended shelter care hearings, and coercion by attorneys, both parents finally agreed to a dependency and more assessments and services.

During this time, Zurius was also removed from the maternal Aunt's home and placed in foster care with strangers, a foster home that is also believed to be a potential adoptive home.

Both parents were doing good in regards to services when COVID-19 happened in March 2020, and everything in Washington State shut down, preventing them from continuing any of the required services or assessments.

At the next review hearing, the department and court acknowledged that both parents would be in compliance with their services and safety plan if the state had not shut down because of the virus.

In May 2020, Sophia's public defender filed a motion for Riley to be returned to their care. Despite the department's objections, Commissioner Matthew Clucas approved the order and Riley returned home on July 16th, 2020, stating that "the court finds the reason for removal no longer exists."

ORDERED as follows:

1. The Child shall be returned to the care of the parents; Sophia Rosas and Sean Kilkenny effective July 6th, 2020. The Court finds that a reason for removal no longer exists.

Dated: July 16, 2020



JUDGE/COURT COMMISSIONER

Not even a month later, their current social worker, Joni McDairmant, and the department filed another petition to remove Riley from the home – this time based solely on Sophia and Sean’s medical marijuana use and despite a parental protection written into Washington State’s 22-year-old medical marijuana law.



Chapter 69.51A RCW: MEDICAL...

 apps.leg.wa.gov



RCW 69.51A.120

Parental rights or residential time —Not to be restricted.

A qualifying patient or designated provider may not have his or her parental rights or residential time with a child restricted solely due to his or her medical use of cannabis in compliance with the terms of this chapter absent written findings supported by evidence that such use has resulted in a long-term impairment that interferes with the performance of parenting functions as defined under RCW **26.09.004**.

Both parents are Medical Marijuana patients, who have utilized Washington's recreational Marijuana programs to gain access to their medicine.

Sophia, having received her \$200 medical marijuana recommendation recently, suffers from pain caused by having her gallbladder removed, and constant digestive tract inflammation that results in nausea and vomiting.

In extreme cases like Sophia's, this condition also results in occasional malnourishment – because her internal organs are webbed together with scar tissue from years of inflammation (beginning around the age of 8 years old).

Sean suffers from fusion of his lower backbone and degenerative disc disease, and has, like many patients across the state, continued to utilize Washington's legal recreational program to obtain his medicine as he cannot afford the \$200 medical recommendation.

A hearing was held August 26th, 2020, with Commissioner Matthew Clucas presiding.



Commissioner Matthew Clucas

The resulting order was entered in violation of State statute (RCW 69.51A.120), against Sophia's medical rights, and without testimony on her behalf by a licensed medical professional.

Commissioner Clucas did not remove Riley from the home, but said he was hesitant in denying the Department's motion. He then ordered that both parents refrain from using marijuana completely, despite it being legal in Washington state, and despite a legitimate Medical Marijuana recommendation from Sophia's physician. He ordered this compliance on threat of again removing Riley from the home.

An order that gave vague authority to the Department, or the assigned Guardian ad Litem, in removing Riley from the home at their discretion.

1		
2		
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4		
5		
6	SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON Kitsap County Juvenile Court	
7	In re the Welfare of:	No. 19-7-00404-18
8	Riley Kilkenny, 11/21/2019	Order From Hearing on Re-Removal
9		<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's Action Required
10	THIS MATTER having come on this day before the Honorable Judge/Court Commissioner	
11	of the above-entitled court, the parties being present and heard and the court being fully advised	
12	in the premises, NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED that	
13	<u>The Department's motion to remove the child from the parental home is denied. The following</u>	
14	<u>conditions are ordered in regards to the child remaining in home: 1) Neither parent may consume</u>	
15	<u>or possess alcohol, marijuana (even if prescribed), or any non-prescribed drugs. 2) If the SW or</u>	
16	<u>GAL suspect use by either parent, the Department is authorized to remove the child from the home</u>	
17	<u>and place the child in foster care or a Department approved relative or suitable other.</u>	
18	<u>A status hearing is set for 9/9/2020 at 9am to check on the status of the above conditions.</u>	
19	DATED this 15 th day of September, 2020.	
20	 JUDGE/COURT COMMISSIONER	
21	Presented by:	Approved for Entry:
22		Electronically approved
23	Bret A. Smith, WSBA #49915	Jennifer Martin
24	Assistant Attorney General	Guardian ad Litem
25	Electronically approved "as to form"	No response received for electronic app.
26	Anne Montgomery, WSBA #	Layna Harris, WSBA #
	Attorney for Mother	Attorney for Father

Order From Hearing 1 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
1250 Pacific Avenue, Suite 105
PO Box 2317
Tacoma, WA 98401
(253) 593-5243

Source: <https://nwsidebar.wsba.org/>

According to Washington DCYF, Sean and Sophia suffer from “Mild or Moderate Cannabis Dependence Disorder” and require abstinence and in depth drug treatment, despite their use being for medical purposes. They’ve taken several chemical dependency assessments through State contracted providers, that all “confirm” this diagnosis.

Both parents have submitted to numerous urine analysis

tests and have attempted to engage in Chemical Dependency services since COVID shut downs happened last March, despite their disagreement with the diagnosis, even being told that their use of marijuana was fine “as long as their levels stay low.”

While all of this was happening, Washington DCYF also motioned for Termination of Parental Rights for Sophia and Zurius’ biological father, and changed the permanency plan for Zurius to “adoption within 6 months.” A TPR hearing is scheduled for October 13th, 2020.

Sophia doesn’t understand why, despite her compliance with the department, they are now attempting to adopt out her son. She says

“I am scared for my children. I’m scared for their mental health because of all this. Especially my firstborn. If I feel out of control, helpless, and hopeless, I can only imagine how they feel.”

Then, on the afternoon of September 4th, everything changed again. The social worker, Joni McDairmant, was supposed to arrive at 1pm to check on Riley. Sean and his mother, Jennifer, were going to take Riley downstairs to meet her for the visit, since Sophia was recently tested for COVID-19 after possible exposure from their neighbor.

After waiting almost an hour, Sophia texted Joni and told her that they had errands to run. Joni texted back and said Riley was not to go anywhere or she would call the police. Sophia told her okay and waited for her to show up.



Jonie Caseworker



1:13 PM

Are you almost here? I'm just asking because Jennifer has some stuff to do and needs to leave here shortly and needs Sean's help.

Okay well just so you know everyone's leaving at 1:45 including Riley.



J

Where is Riley going? I will be there shortly

With Jennifer for a little. And ok

J

I'm on my way

You were supposed to be here at 1:00. They have to leave at 45 after so literally in 5 minutes.

You will have to reschedule

We will all be here Monday

Now • SMS



Jonie Caseworker



they are running late to and really need to get to.



Riley may not leave-Sean and Jennifer can leave

they have to be here because they will be the ones bringing him down to you since I have not gotten my covid testing back

May I ask what the holdup is? You were supposed to be here at 1:00.

Now • SMS

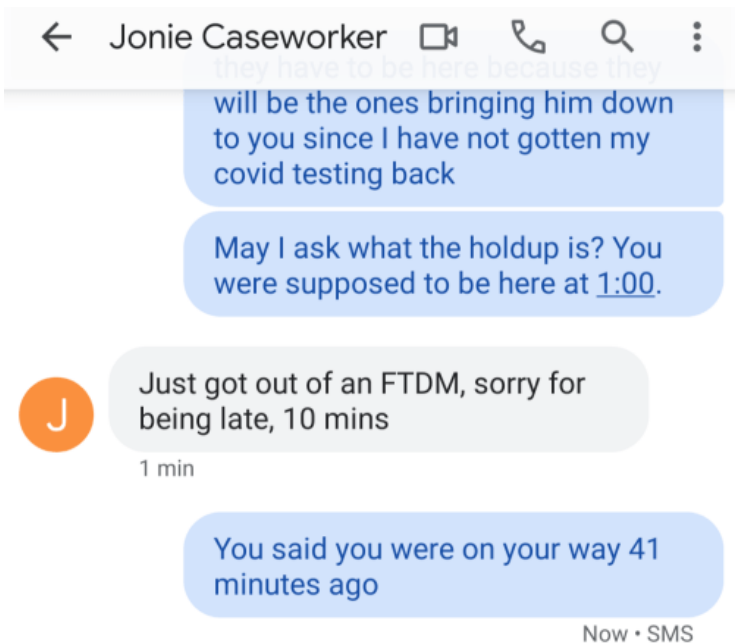


He may not leave with Jennifer, I will call police if you are not there with Riley

Now

Okay

Now • SMS



Within the hour, police showed up, followed by the social workers, Joni McDairmant and CPS investigator, Gregory Fontenette.

Using Commissioner Clucas' vague order, and a failed UA from only a week after the order was given, Joni and Gregory removed Riley from his parent's care and took him to foster care – despite his previous placement (a family friend) being present and willing to take him.



Jennifer and Sophia filmed the abduction with their phones.

https://youtu.be/_mdsGHRYwew

Riley is now placed with strangers in foster care, despite being possibly exposed to COVID19, putting whatever foster home he was placed in at risk of potentially contracting the virus as well. The social workers didn't even allow time to

pack a bag or say goodbye. Sophia is distraught that her baby won't even have his peter rabbit for bedtime, a stuffie he has slept with every night since he has been home.

Sophia and Sean are desperate to get both of their boys home again.

Serra Frank, a family advocate from [Fight for Lilly](#), has reviewed the paperwork and is now working with the family. It is obvious to her, and many others that have looked at the case, that reunification with the family has never been the goal of the Kitsap County Washington Department of Children, Youth and Families.

Serra says,

I have never seen such an blatant case of forced adoption in my 7 years of being a family advocate. This young family was obviously targeted because of their age, their economic status, and their beautiful blonde-haired and blue-eyed babies – that any parent in the world would want to adopt.

It wouldn't matter if the parents completed a million services successfully. Adoption of both children is apparently the only goal of this department.

Sopha says,

I didn't understand why Kitsap County was nicknamed Kidnap County, until I had kids.

She has now filed to discharge the public defender that was

obviously not adequately speaking for her in court, and is ready to fight them head on. Sophia has also filed for a revision of Commissioner Clucas' ruling regarding her medical marijuana use, to be heard by Kitsap County Superior Court on September 16th, 2020.

She says,

Ever since I took over and started fighting back, I feel empowered and more hopeful. I feel better prepared to say the least. I feel like Super Mom. I will save my babies.

Both parents are scheduled to appear again in front of Commissioner Clucas on September 9th, 2020, at 9am PST. This hearing is to review their compliance with the order that mandates they quit using medical marijuana, and will likely be a new shelter care hearing for baby Riley.

Sophia is asking Commissioner Clucas to stay his order, pending revision, and will be requesting the immediate return home of her son.

She believes that as a legal medical marijuana patient in Washington State, she shouldn't have to choose between her life-saving medicine and her babies.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Family Facebook Support Page -
www.facebook.com/Fight4ZandRiley

#Fight4ZandRiley

Change.org

petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/washington-dcyf-stop-medical-kidnapping-in-kitsap-county>

Contact:

Washington Governor Jay Inslee:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/contact/contact/send-gov-inslee-e-message>

Office of the Governor

PO Box 40002

Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Phone: 360-902-4111

Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler

345 6th Street Suite 600

Bremerton, WA 98337

Phone: 360-473-5266

Washington Legislators:

Representative Dan Griffey:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/memberEmail/35/1>

PO Box 40600

Olympia, WA 98504

(360) 786 - 7966

Senator Tim Sheldon:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/memberEmail/35/0>

PO Box 40435

Olympia, WA 98504

(360) 786 - 7668

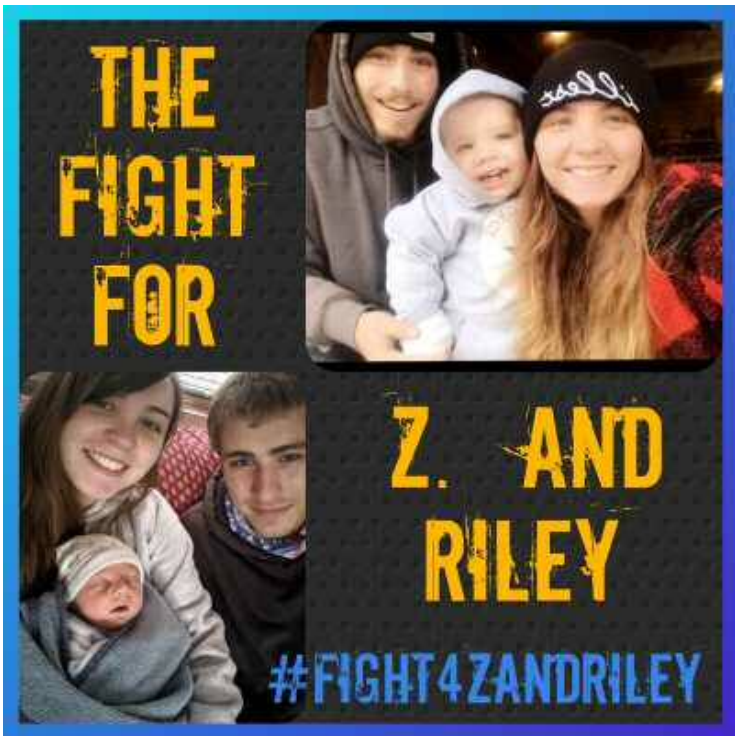
Fax: (360) 786 - 1999

Senator Patty Murray:
<https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/mobile/contactme>

Senator Maria Cantwell:
<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact>

Representative Derek Kilmer:
<https://kilmer.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Judge Orders Terrorized Toddler Medically Kidnapped from Parents over Medical Marijuana Use Returned to Family's Custody



by Health Impact News / Medical Kidnap Staff

On September 4th, 2020, Sophia Rosas from the state of Washington, had one of her babies ripped from her arms for the third time in 2 years. First, her oldest Zurius, in

November 2018, after an accident resulted in a broken arm and CPS involvement without a trial. Her second son, Riley, was removed at birth in November 2019 – for the mere reason that there was an open case with Zurius.

Then, less than two months after Riley had been returned home in July of this year, he was ripped from her arms once again.

This time over his parent's medical marijuana use in legal Washington State.

See:

[Washington Couple Harassed Over Medical Marijuana Use – Children Kidnapped and Allegedly Scheduled for Adoption](#)

Many times when a child is removed from the home it can take quite a while to find a foster home for them to go to, depending on the availability of homes and number of children in need of care.

In some states, so many children have been removed from their homes that there are not enough foster homes available to house them all.

It has been reported that many foster kids end up sleeping in small rooms at the Department's office building until placement can be found.

See:

Foster children are still sleeping in state offices amid shortage of homes

Kansas again keeping foster kids in offices

Our children are sleeping in state offices

After Riley was removed, every few hours Sophia texted the social worker who took him, Joni McDairmant, to find out how her son was doing, and whether he had been placed in a home yet – as promised when they had removed him.

https://youtu.be/_mdsGHRYwew



Just got out of an FTDM, sorry for
Jonie Caseworker



You said you were on your way 41 minutes ago

Friday • 9:56 PM

Where is my baby? Is he safe? Is he with placement? How is he?

Saturday • 7:18 AM

Where is my child? How is he?

Saturday • 11:12 AM

Hello? Please let me know how my child is. Please. I'm his mother..

We are all worried sick

Saturday • 12:47 PM

Please...is my baby safe?!

Saturday • 1:57 PM

Please...

Saturday • 4:07 PM

Is my child with placement and is he safe??

Saturday • 6:13 PM

Please answer me...is my child safe? What city is he in? Please...hes just a baby....please let me know...

Saturday • 7:56 PM

Please let me know my baby is in placement and is safe..



Jonie Caseworker



Saturday • 9:57 PM

I just want to know if my baby is safe, please, I'm begging you. We are all worried sick.

Sunday • 7:33 AM

Please... This is not right. I'm his mother. Is my child safe

Sunday • 9:55 AM

Who do I contact that can actually answer me?

I demand answers as his mother. Is my child safe, and is he in placement? We were clearly told that we would be notified when Riley was in placement.



Jonie Caseworker



Sunday • 4:26 PM

Please let us know if he's on placement and safe.. this is my baby ..

Sunday • 6:03 PM

Is he in placement

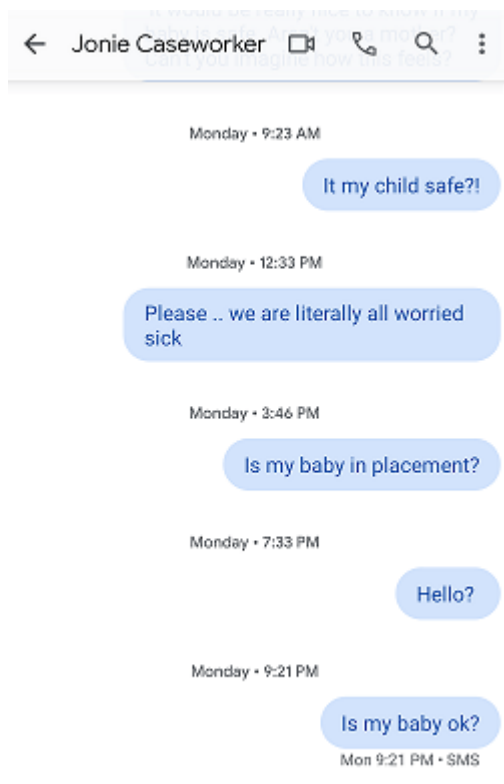
Sunday • 9:38 PM

Please...is my baby ok?

it would be really nice to know if my baby is safe. Aren't you a mother? Can't you imagine how this feels?

Monday • 9:23 AM

It my child safe?!



Sophia never heard back from Joni McDairmant, and spent the weekend in unimaginable fear, terrified of where her baby could have gone. The horror stories of physical and sexual abuse in foster care are all too real and frequent to ignore.

After the long holiday weekend, and almost 96 hours of silence about their son's whereabouts, the social worker involved, Joni McDairmant, finally responded to Sophia and Sean's messages on Tuesday, September 8th.

Tuesday • 8:06 AM

Jonie Caseworker



Good morning-just turning my phone on from the weekend off. Riley is fine, I will be setting up a video visit for later today.

Serra points out,

“For CPS social workers, this is a job. They work 8am – 5pm, Monday through Friday, and are often penalized for taking overtime, so they avoid it. When it’s a weekend, especially a long one with a holiday like in this case, you cannot reach them for days at a time.

But for parents, this is their LIFE. They suffer every moment of every day, because social workers behave like their lack of response doesn’t affect anyone since they aren’t on the clock anymore.

But it does. It affects the whole family. Especially the children.”

A virtual visit was allegedly offered to Sean and Sophia, but never given. They were also notified that there would be a Family Team Decision Meeting held via conference call. Sophia and Sean attended that meeting, along with their family advocate, Serra Frank; from the Fight for Lilly.

However, the meeting didn’t last long once the social

workers learned they were being recorded. Joni McDairmant objected to being recorded, and said she didn't give permission because she "didn't like how the recordings had been used so far."

Sophia and Sean live streamed the meeting through their family support page on [Facebook](#).

Serra told *Health Impact News*:

"Today's family team meeting reminded me of the chorus in a song from the new Hamilton musical called [THE ROOM WHERE IT HAPPENS](#).

Across the country – hundreds of thousands of families are coerced and manipulated into unjust agreements, unnecessary assessments, services, and even forced adoption and termination of parental rights, through these exact "Family Team Decision Meetings" – mainly because society is in the dark about what is happening behind closed doors... because NO ONE ELSE IS IN THE ROOM WHERE IT HAPPENS.

This is exactly what happened to Sean and Sophia for the last 2 years – the use of intimidation to coerce services and compliance. But things are different now and changing quickly. They have found their voices and are fighting to save their family by documenting everything, refusing to stay silent about what is happening, and sharing it all with the world.

It's always enjoyable to watch social workers scatter like cockroaches when they see the light of public scrutiny exposing them!"

--

The next day, September 9th, 2020, the Shelter Care Hearing for Riley, in front of Commissioner Matthew Clucas, was also Live Streamed on the support page. The entire family agrees that the behavior of Commissioner Clucas was very contrasting to the last time they were in front of him when he gave the order that Sophia and Sean could not use Marijuana, even for medical purposes.

Jennifer Kilkenny, Sean's mom, says,

“He ripped Sean to shreds last hearing. He was very rude and unprofessional. He also said I had no credibility unless I called my son a knucklehead. It was a totally different tune today.”

Joni McDairmant, and the Assistant Attorney General on the case, Bret Smith, continued with the argument that the parents were not fit to have Riley returned because they both tested positive for Marijuana in a recent UA, and Sean had tested positive for alcohol.



Caseworker Joni McDairmant. Image from Facebook.

The judge condemned the actions of CPS and Riley's removal, although he didn't send him home to his family like many feel he should.

Instead, Commissioner Clucas ordered that Riley be placed back in the care of Monica, his previous caretaker, or his paternal grandmother, by 1 p.m. that day.

Then he set a new hearing to discuss the parent's progress with chemical dependency, treatment for marijuana and alcohol use, as well as traffic violations and other

“concerns” the department says they still have about Riley going home to his parents.

Statements from the family’s support page give more detail about what happened:

<https://www.facebook.com/108184074344398/posts/118591466636992/>



“#Fight4ZandRiley Court Update – 🧑🏻‍⚖️

Commissioner Matthew Clucas had a completely different attitude today than the last time Sophia and Sean were in front of him! It’s amazing what public scrutiny can do for a court case. Thank you for all of your love & support! ❤️

Today’s hearing went better than expected. CPS was chastised for removing Riley last Friday. The judge said it wasn’t “emergent” and that just because he “gave them the power to do something, doesn’t mean that it should have been done” – basically agreeing that CPS abused their authority to remove Riley.

But he still didn't send Riley home, despite that if it wasn't "emergent" on Friday, it still isn't "emergent" today. Instead, he sent him back to his prior placement before his return home in July, with visitations guaranteed for both Sophia and Sean. A better place than foster care, but not as good as at home with his parents.

He also vacated his order from August 26th, regarding Medical Marijuana and Riley's removal, but again, still DID NOT send Riley home to his parents. 🙄

Additionally, chemical dependency treatment for Alcohol and Marijuana is still on the table – DESPITE ZERO INSTANCES THAT CAN BE VOCALIZED REGARDING HOW LEGAL MARIJUANA USE, OR EVEN LEGAL ALCOHOL USE, HAS IMPACTED THEIR ABILITY TO PARENT. #MarijuanaIsSAFERthanCPS

The Department did their best job as usual to grasp at straws with which to attack the parents. Many lies were told, and vague "concerns" were raised that have absolutely nothing to do with either parents ability to parent. 🙄

Court has been scheduled to reconvene in two weeks to clear up "safety concerns" addressed by the department, determine what steps the parents have taken to ensure Riley can come home, including re: Sean's outstanding traffic tickets and lack of driver's license, and participation in UAs and Chemical Dependency Treatment for Marijuana.

Weirdly, the judge was not visible on the video call, as he has been in the past and was during the case heard at the hearing directly before this one.

Maybe he knew the world was watching! 🌍

We really appreciate the 77 people who were watching it all happen, and the 500+ views the hearing has since received. Thank you so much for your help in our fight to #SaveOurChildren from #KidnapCounty



Court will reconvene on Sept. 23rd, with Commissioner Clucas, to discuss Riley's continued out of home placement. Court support event can be found here - <https://www.facebook.com/events/701625457099106/>

If you haven't signed the petition to return the boys home, please sign and share! www.change.org/fight4zandriley

If you can support the family by donating, please do! They can use all the help they can get! Court battles are definitely expensive.

www.fundrazr.com/fight4zandriley

Thank you for following the Fight for Z and Riley!

We couldn't do this without the support of the community.  

Much love and appreciation to you all! 

--

Although it isn't exactly what Sean and Sophia wanted, which is the immediate return of their baby, essentially it was still a big win.

The department has not even asked for another FTDM. The family speculates that this is because Sophia refuses to not

record the conversation and there is no need to determine placement when the court already ordered Riley placed with a suitable relative at Sophia's motion.

After court, Sophia and Sean were anxious for when they would hear that their baby had arrived at their preferred placement with extended family.

However, Joni McDairmant refused to discuss anything through text and kept insisting Sophia call her to discuss it. Having learned better, Sophia refused unless the discussion was documented somehow.

Tuesday • 2:22 PM

Sean Kilkenry



You as the social worker need to include me in every email and reply to my questions. This one sided game is not in your job description, thank you.

Wednesday • 10:30 AM

Hello Joni. I am getting Jennifer to come over to grab all of Riley's stuff to bring over to Monica's period if you can let me know if we could possibly have visitation today, that would be amazing if not then can we schedule for tomorrow? Also please don't forget I do have visitation with Z tomorrow from 9:00 to 12:00. Thank you.

Sean Kilkenry

Your lies are showing, I know you called Monica to try to twist the order. Lawyers and advocates informed.



Joni Mcdairment.

Yes commissioner clucas said to give 24 hours in advance so that you know to show up if you would like to. He just specified that it has to be supervised, which it will be by Monica. Thank you.

Jonie Caseworker



Call me-let's talk

Sean Kilkenry

Nope, all communications will be over text or email, you know exactly why.



Let's talk on record.

I agree with Sean.

Sean Kilkenry

We would like to know when Riley is picked up and dropped off at placement. As the commissioner pointed out the lack of communication on your end, thank you.



Jonie Caseworker



Call me, and we will talk

We prefer to keep communications documented. Thank you.

We prefer to keep communications documented. Thank you.

Please do not forget, you have until 1pm to place him with Monica or it will be in contempt and court and you WILL file to hold her accountable.

I will file to hold you accountable. Thank you again.

Monica informed us that we can go and see Riley today. Please confirm via text please so we have it documented. Thank you.

We have also set up a visitation for 1:30 tomorrow afternoon for Sean and I both. Thank you.

We are willing to speak on the telephone but it will be recorded,

Monica, a family friend and Riley's caretaker for the first 7 months of his life while he was in "foster care," met Joni and another social worker at the DCYF office at 1 p.m. to pick up Riley.

She said,

"I basically snatched him from her hands, cried for a minute, and told him I was so sorry this happened to him; while she (Joni) and the other lady just stared at me and didn't say a word."

Once he was home with her, Monica says she noticed that Riley is really different from this experience. She said,

“Riley does not want to be put down and left by himself, which is not like him at all.”

Monica points out that Riley has always been an easy child and she’s never had problems putting him to bed.

“Now he screams, like terror screams. So I’ve just been rocking him to sleep. He won’t even stay in his bed. He wakes up several times, and every time I lay him down after he falls asleep, he wakes up and cries hard. So I just hold him in the recliner all night so he can sleep.”

Monica also said,

“He has been extremely cautious with several adults he’s been around his whole life. He seems scared and uncertain. This is not his normal personality. He’s had some very unhappy moments as well. I don’t understand how this (stay with strangers in foster care) has been helpful at all. He is very loved and cared for by a large group of family, especially his parents.”

Sophia says that once Riley was able to have his Peter Rabbit stuffy from his parents’ house, Monica told her that Riley finally started to feel a bit better.

The day after court, Sean and Sophia finally held their son in their arms once again. They say they arrived while Riley was sleeping so they just held and cuddled him. When he woke up a few minutes after they arrived, Sophia says he

“shot straight up out of the laying position and started looking around frantically like he was terrified. Monica said he has been doing that, but after he realized we were there he was a lot better. He ended up falling asleep on me and we cuddled for about 2 hours. Monica says he has slept a lot better since he saw us.”





Senator Nancy Schaefer once said,

“No child who emerges from the system can ever be sound or whole.”

The trauma caused by being forcefully separated from your family as a small child is unimaginable, and poor Riley was obviously affected. It is also terrifying for his parents to not know exactly what happened, or who Riley was with for 5 whole days. The statistics of physical and sexual abuse in foster care are sickening and the thought of not knowing who has your child is petrifying.

Foster care is much more dangerous than the non-toxic Medical Cannabis that Riley’s parents use as treatment for their medical conditions. The family agrees this never should have happened to Riley, especially when Monica was available the entire time, and holding him in her arms when the social workers came to take him away.

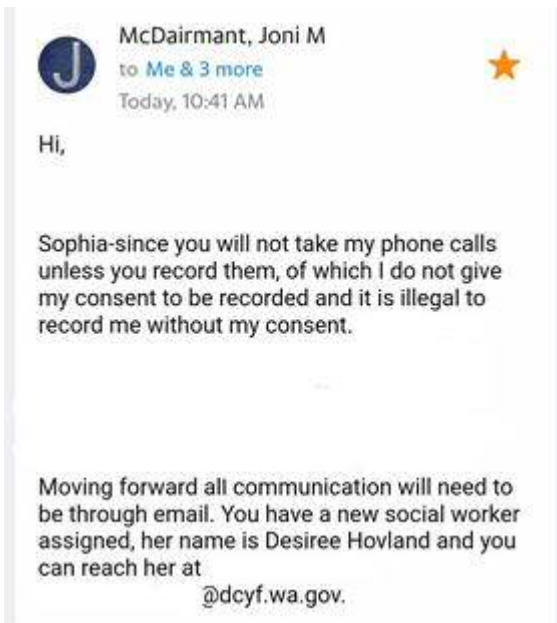
Sophia knows she has a long road ahead of her fighting by herself in court, but is grateful she doesn't feel so alone anymore, despite firing her attorney.

She says,

“I am very excited and hopeful about moving forward. The public support has been absolutely amazing and the scrutiny has been on point. I feel like we've made a huge impact in our case and just in a week.

I really wish I would have known how much this would have worked so I could have started this from the beginning. I feel alot better about firing my attorney, as I feel like there is another person away from trying to work against me.”

The social worker, Joni McDairmant, has also since been removed from the case. A new social worker, Desiree Hovland, has been assigned, along with a new supervisor on the case.



Sophia hopes that with a new caseworker things will start changing quickly in both of her sons' cases; and that maybe this woman can look at this family with different eyes. Sean and Sophia say they appreciate all of the support they've received and hope that the community will continue to support their fight to bring their boys home for good.

👉 HOW YOU CAN HELP: 👉

👉 [Family Support Page – Fight for Z and Riley](#)

👉 #Fight4ZandRiley

👉 Change.org petition – www.change.org/fight4ZandRiley

👉 Donation Account – www.fundrazr.com/fight4ZandRiley

👉 Contact Everyone:

Washington Governor Jay Inslee:
<https://www.governor.wa.gov/contact/contact/send-gov-inslee-e-message>

Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002
Phone: 360-902-4111

Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler
345 6th Street Suite 600
Bremerton, WA 98337
Phone: 360-473-5266

Washington Legislators:

Representative Dan Griffey:
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/memberEmail/35/1>
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504

(360) 786 - 7966

Senator Tim Sheldon:
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/memberEmail/35/0>
PO Box 40435
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7668
Fax: (360) 786 - 1999

Senator Patty Murray:
<https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/mobile/contactme>

Senator Maria Cantwell:
<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact>

Representative Derek Kilmer:
<https://kilmer.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Washington Mom Fights to Get Son Back Who Was Wrongfully Taken Away Due to Her Medical Cannabis Treatment



Sophia, Sean, and Riley. Photo supplied by Family.

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

A Washington couple, Sophia Rosas and Sean Kilkenny, of Bremerton, have been fighting for their two boys for the last 2 years. Not knowing how to speak for herself in court, Sophia was allegedly manipulated and coerced by her public defender to do what the CPS social workers at the Washington Department of Children, Family and Youth

(DCYF) told her to do.

See our previous stories about this family:

Washington Couple Harassed Over Medical Marijuana Use – Children Kidnapped and Allegedly Scheduled for Adoption

Judge Orders Terrorized Toddler Medically Kidnapped from Parents over Medical Marijuana Use Returned to Family's Custody

But now Sophia has found her voice, learned how to file her own court documents, and she says since she began representing herself, “*Everything is changing so fast!*”

Prior to firing her attorney, Sophia says that she felt coerced and intimidated anytime she disagreed and wanted to challenge what the Department was saying in court.

She says she was not ever truly informed of her rights under The United States Constitution or even the Washington State Constitution, both of which require due process, including a hearing with witnesses and evidence, in order to restrict parental rights.

Sophia says,

“I was not informed that agreeing to a dependency for either case would result in me giving up such rights; or potentially lead to the termination of my parental rights to each child. During that time, I was told that I had to do what Anne Montgomery (public defender) chose to do with my cases, and she intimidated me and talked down to me when I was

not in agreement. I did not learn I could speak for myself in court until recently, and am now attempting to make myself adequately heard.”

She says that her previous public defender had not been filing on her behalf in court, including any documents relating to the completion of her services, so the court was never informed that she had been completing the required services.

According to the court documents reviewed by *Health Impact News* staff, the public defender never submitted anything to the court to show Sophia had completed any services, and the Department made it look like she wasn't doing any of them – another common tactic of CPS corruption.

If the court is never adequately informed, and the parents never speak out against their public defender, the department gets away with everything they say to the court because there are no objections. This can lead to the unnecessary termination of parental rights if the parents have attorneys that are not adequately representing their interests in court.

Sophia has filed at least two dozen documents in recent weeks, including a Declaration of the facts of the case outlining all of the services that she has completed; and has requested hearings to discuss bringing her children home.

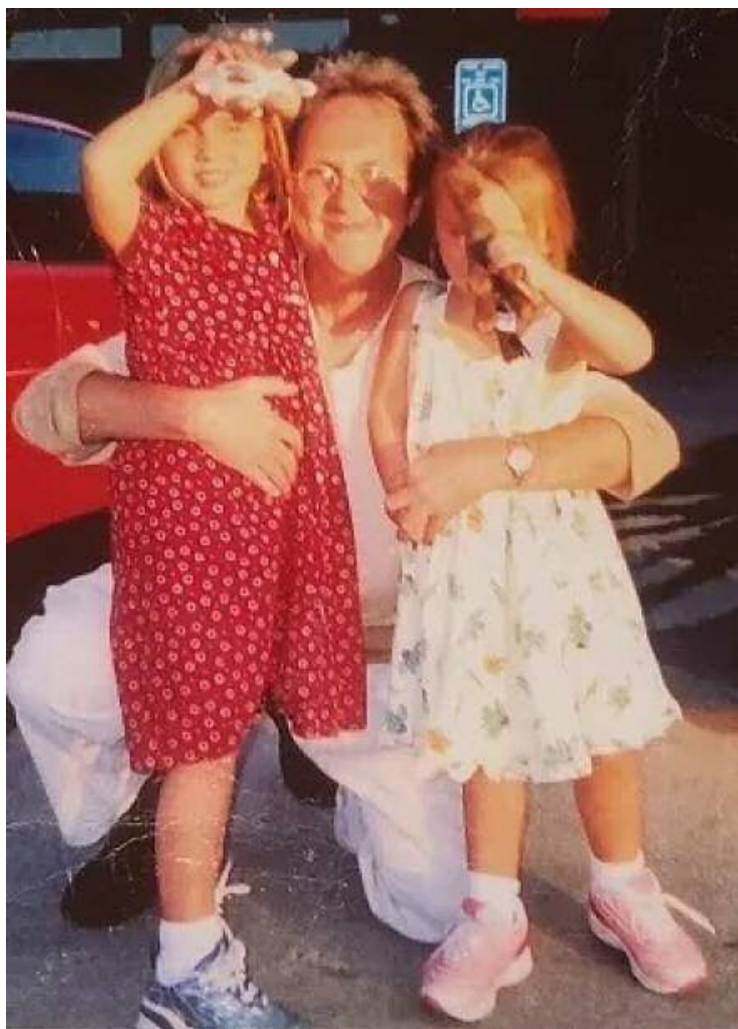


Court has been set for Wednesday, September 30th, to hear her motions on all three cases, including her opposition and motion to dismiss a petition for Termination of Parental Rights to her oldest son, Zurius.

Sophia is refusing to let her sons go without a fight; and says she gets motivation for this fight from her grandfather – world renowned musician, Mitch Mitchell – Rock n’ Roll Hall of Fame legend, the late John “Mitch” Mitchell – drummer for the iconic classic rock band – The Jimi Hendrix Experience of the 1960’s.



Left: Jimi Hendrix and Mitch Mitchell (Source: Wikimedia.)
Right: Tina Hendrix and Sophia Rosas in 2020. Source:
Family



John "Mitch" Mitchell with his granddaughters. Photo supplied by family.

See:

Mitch Mitchell's Legacy Legally Kidnapped over Medical Marijuana

Sophia is Mitch Mitchell's biological granddaughter; making Zurius and Riley his biological great-grandsons. Mitch is also survived by Sophia's mother/Mitch's daughter, Aysha Mitchell, as well as Sophia's older sister, Sydney, and her 3-year-old son, Kai.

Mitch was never able to meet his great grandsons, though his family says he would have been very much enamored with them, as he once was his daughter and granddaughters; and would not accept losing any of them without a fight. They are part of the Mitchell Legacy.

Family Advocate, Serra Frank, from [Moms for Marijuana International](#) and the [Fight for Lilly](#) says,

“A common issue with the corruption found in Child Protective Services is that of Generational Genocide. Generations losing their heritage, their culture, and their access to their biological family because of forced adoption to strangers through foster care. Biological heritage, and the legacy left by family patriarch, Mitch Mitchell, are extremely important to the Rosas/Mitchell family; and the family is not giving up without a fight.”

As Senator Nancy Schaefer said to the Georgia Assembly in 2007, through her report titled, [“The Corrupt Business of Child Protective Services”](#):

“[Parents and] Grandparents who lose their [children and] grandchildren to strangers have lost their own flesh and

blood. The children lose their family heritage, and [parents and] grandparents too, lose the connection of their heirs.”

The family has held several protests in front of the Bremerton DCYF office in the last few weeks and received quite a bit of community support.



Photo supplied by Family.



Photo supplied by Family.

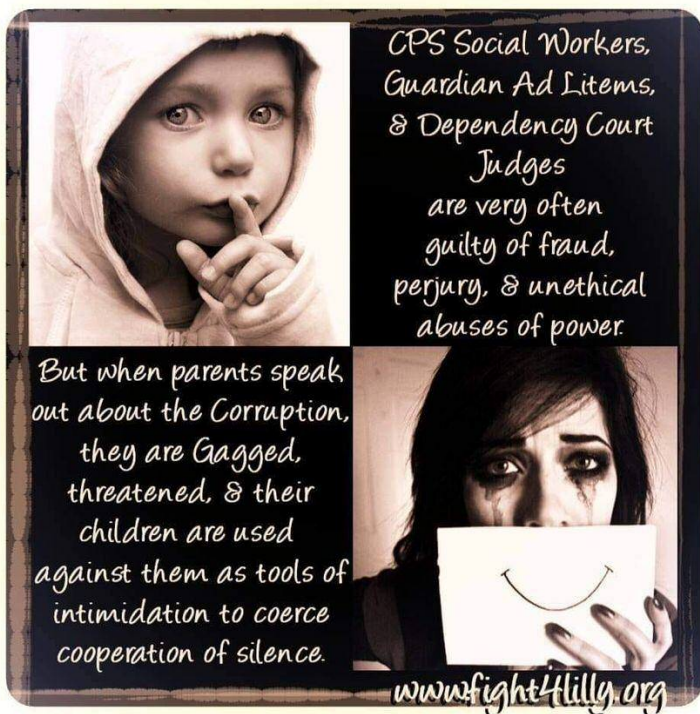


Photo supplied by Family.



Photo supplied by Family.

Sophia also tells *Health Impact News* that since she first went public, the Department has been allegedly been retaliating, restricting visits with both of her children.



One day last week, the department even allegedly used COVID 19 as a risk and canceled visits with both boys, because of Sophia's symptoms of her gallbladder disorder.

Sophia reports that while she was in the bathroom dealing with the nausea and vomiting symptoms of her condition, the department allegedly removed Zurius and sent him home, without even letting her say goodbye. She says she saw Z for about 10 minutes when she felt a wave of nausea so she decided to go to the bathroom. She says the last thing she said to Z was, "I love you baby, I'll be right back."

When she went back to the room, she was informed the visit was canceled and her son was already gone.

DCYF Social Worker, Desiree Hovland, being newly assigned to the case simply passed the buck to previous social workers and stated that she “didn’t know about Sophia’s medical conditions” and requested a release of information for medical records that the department has already received, but refused to allow the visits to continue.



Desiree Hovland. Image Source: Facebook.

Sophia says she refused to sign the release again, but gladly sent the social workers her medical records directly, hoping that maybe now they will start to understand the reality of her debilitating illness that requires Medical Marijuana for treatment.

At court on Sept 23rd, 2020, Commissioner Matthew Clucas confronted the department for their behavior, stating that the Department has known for a while about Sophia's medical issues, especially because of the medical marijuana issue that they have used to remove Sophia's youngest son Riley from the home, and ordered the visits be made up.

Also at court, Commissioner Clucas stated he had been going through the documents Sophia has recently filed and had to stop at one titled: "*Notice of Retraction of Agreement to Dependency*," in which Sophia had stated that she had been coerced and intimidated into agreeing to the dependencies, but was now retracting that agreement.

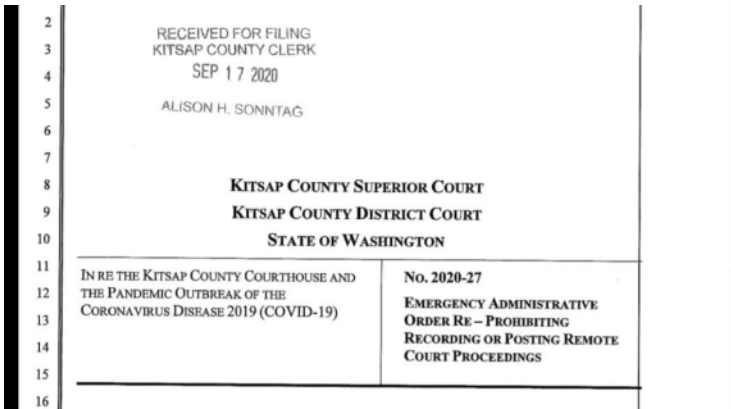
Commissioner Clucas requested the parents attend court in person to go over these documents, because it was a very serious accusation and he wanted to make sure she was "*not being coerced to go pro se.*" Sophia says "*I am definitely not being coerced to speak for myself, and am ecstatic to be able to finally be heard by the court.*"



But she is concerned because she is no longer being allowed public scrutiny of these hearings.

Since she first live streamed the court hearing on Sept. 9th through their family support page, Kitsap County Superior Court created a new “Emergency Administrative Rule” about recording the Zoom hearings.

Obviously in retaliation to live streaming the hearing, the courts have now prohibited the recording or streaming of any hearing in Kitsap County without permission from the assigned commissioner or judge.



However, this violates Sophia’s rights under the Washington State Constitution to an open and public hearing.

In Washington, the right to open court proceedings is constitutionally mandated by [Article I, Section 10 of the State Constitution](#), which provides: “justice in all cases shall be administered openly, and without unnecessary delay.”

Washington courts have stated they have a duty to ensure “the right of the people to . . . freely observe the administration of civil and criminal justice.” [Allied Daily Newspapers of Wash. v. Eikenberry](#) (1993).

The Washington Supreme Court has expressly held that Art. I, Sec. 10 “guarantees the public and the press a right of access to judicial proceedings and court documents in both civil and criminal cases.” [Dreiling v. Jain, \(2004\)](#).

Serra Frank points out that:

“the guarantee of public hearings in Washington State has always been recognized by their Supreme Court as a

safeguard against any attempt to employ the courts as instruments of persecution; such as exactly what the Department is attempting to do in Sophia & Sean's case by persecuting these parents over their medical marijuana use."

To abide by the new Administrative Ruling, Sophia canceled the previously scheduled Live Streaming of the Sept 23rd hearing, but to ensure her right to a public hearing, posted the Zoom information for the court hearing on the family support page, and asked people to call in to witness.

Over two dozen members of the community reported calling in to witness the hearing, but the court never let them into the Zoom call – therefore denying Sophia her right to an open and public hearing in Washington State.



S [redacted]
Log on at 225 stayed on the
host screen till 247 when it
said host is ending meeting.



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[redacted] Ack!



[redacted]
I got a message from [redacted]
[redacted] Kilkenny with the link of
your update while waiting to join
be allowed in.



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[redacted]
It never let me in.



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[redacted]
Never let me in





[Redacted]
I logged in prior as well and heard that there were 24 others on the call. After that, nothing



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[Redacted]
Tried about 5 times, first time I got the message to wait to be allowed in, second I was put in but it was just a group of people sitting and waiting, no video or audio



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[Redacted]
Made multiple attempts and was not permitted to hear



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[Redacted]
I thought it was my phone messed up lol or I'm a dummy and missed it since I was 3 mins late but it was just silent. 😞





[REDACTED]
I logged in 5 minutes prior but was not let in till 2.57. Then just heard about 30secs. Paul tried as well but never got in



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[REDACTED]
It didn't ever let me in so I gave up. It was past 2:30.



4d **Angry** Reply Message



[REDACTED]
I tried to attend through phone and it just played hold music the entire time.



4d **Angry** Reply Message

Sophia says she has now also filed for the court to uphold her right to a public hearing, and has requested permission from Commissioner Clucas for the hearing to be live streamed.

Serra Frank says the court should definitely be open:

“Washington has wonderful public hearing laws. States like Arizona, Idaho, Texas, Tennessee, and many many others close their courtroom doors – a HUGE issue with corruption in CPS and violation of the United States Constitution Amendments #1, 6 & 14. Lack of public scrutiny breeds unlawful intimidation, coercion, and manipulation by government employees. In order to uphold Sophia’s rights

under these laws, the court should reopen its doors in one way or another.”

Sophia says she doesn't know what is going to happen in court on Wednesday, but that things are definitely different. She feels that she is being treated with much more respect since she fired her inadequate attorney and took over her own cases.

Previously, two separate court dates were scheduled for September 30th- one at 1:30pm PST for the TPR response hearing for Zurius and one at 2:30pm PST for a status conference for Riley.

Sophia has informed *Health Impact News* that once she filed a motion for Joinder of all the cases, the hearings were merged and will occur from 2:30pm to 4:30pm PST, with Commissioner Matthew Clucas presiding for all of the cases.

Sophia says Commissioner Clucas allegedly told her to expect a “*long hearing*” and to bring both the paternal and maternal grandparents to the courthouse.

Sophia is obviously nervous, but says she believes that “*justice will be done, either now – or later if I am forced to appeal to the higher courts.*” She says she will never quit fighting to bring BOTH of her boys home, no matter how far she must go.

“They should be home with me, where they belong... I will never give up my babies.”



👉 HOW YOU CAN HELP 👈

👉 Family Support Page - Fight for Z and Riley - www.facebook.com/Fight4ZandRiley

👉 Public Events - www.facebook.com/Fight4ZandRiley/events

👉 [#Fight4ZandRiley](https://www.instagram.com/Fight4ZandRiley)

👉 Change.org petition - www.change.org/fight4ZandRiley

👉 Donation Account - www.fundrazr.com/fight4ZandRiley

👉 Contact Everyone:

Washington Leaders:

✉️ Washington Governor Jay Inslee:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov>

Office of the Governor

PO Box 40002

Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Phone: 360-902-4111

 Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler

345 6th Street Suite 600

Bremerton, WA 98337

Phone: 360-473-5266

Washington Legislators:

 Representative Dan Griffey:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/psc/memberEmail/35/1>

PO Box 40600

Olympia, WA 98504

(360) 786 - 7966

 Senator Tim Sheldon:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/psc/memberEmail/35/0>

PO Box 40435

Olympia, WA 98504

(360) 786 - 7668

Fax: (360) 786 - 1999

✉ Senator Patty Murray:
<https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/mobile/contactme>

✉ Senator Maria Cantwell:
<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact>

✉ Representative Derek Kilmer:
<https://kilmer.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Washington Mother Represents Herself in Court and Beats CPS - Judge Orders Baby Returned Home



by Health Impact News / MedicalKidnap.com Staff

A Washington couple, 22-year-old Sophia Rosas and her fiancé, 23-year-old Sean Kilkenny, of Bremerton, have been fighting tooth and nail for the last month to bring home their two young children.

The month of September ended quite differently than it began for the young couple, with relief and tears of joy instead of grief and sorrow, as Sophia and Sean's youngest son Riley was returned home for the second time, despite CPS objection.

See our previous stories about this family:

[Washington Couple Harassed Over Medical Marijuana Use - Children Kidnapped and Allegedly Scheduled for Adoption](#)

[Judge Orders Terrorized Toddler Medically Kidnapped from Parents over Medical Marijuana Use Returned to Family's Custody](#)

[Washington Mom Fights to Get Son Back Who Was Wrongfully Taken Away Due to Her Medical Cannabis Treatment](#)

On September 30th, 2020, Sophia and Sean attended a Status Hearing in Kitsap County, Washington, regarding the out-of-home placement of their son, Riley. Sophia's oldest son, Zurius, whose biological father is no longer involved in the case, was also discussed at this hearing. Commissioner Matthew Clucas presided.

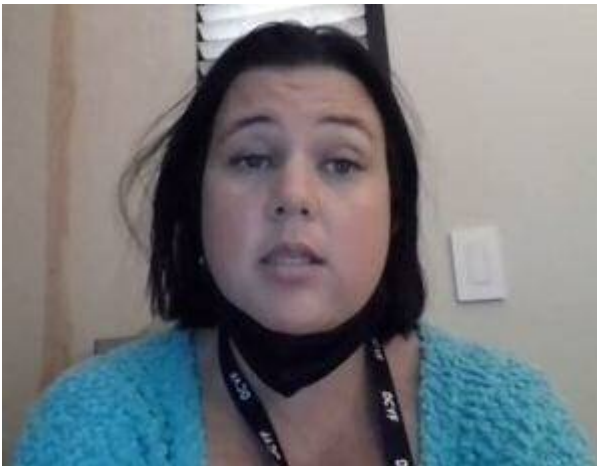
The hearing began at 2:30pm PST. As with the previous hearing on Sept 23rd, numerous members of the public called in to witness the hearing but were immediately denied access.

However, almost half an hour into the hearing, the awaiting audience was suddenly allowed into the Zoom video and

telephone conference. Apparently the beginning of the hearing had started with Sophia's motion to reopen the court to the public, and her motion was granted.

As Commissioner Clucas added all of the audience that was waiting in the virtual "lobby" he mentioned there were 28 people in attendance online via Zoom.

Also in attendance through Zoom was AAG Rachel Strayhorn, SW Desiree Hovland, SW Supervisor Lillian, GAL Jennifer Martin, Attorney (for Z's *biodad*) Nathan Collins, and many more, identified as court support and observers, including Health Impact News staff, that called in to witness the hearing.



Desiree Hovland. Source: Kitsap County Juvenile Court Zoom Hearing.



Jennifer Martin. Source: Kitsap County Juvenile Court Zoom Hearing.



Rachel Strayhorn. Source: Kitsap County Juvenile Court Zoom Hearing.

In attendance in the courtroom with Commissioner Clucas and his clerk Mea, were Sophia and Sean, as well Leyna Harris (*Sean's attorney*), Jennifer Kilkenny (*Sean's mother*), Aysha Mitchell (*Sophia's mother*), and Monica Holm (*Sean's Aunt and placement for Riley*).



Source: Kitsap County Juvenile Court Zoom Hearing.

Most importantly, Baby Riley was also in the courtroom, allegedly at the request of the Commissioner, and could be seen babbling and fussing in the background.



Source: Kitsap County Juvenile Court Zoom Hearing.

There was much discussion about a family team decision meeting that had occurred the Friday before, where Sophia had refused to agree to any continued services without court discussion if her son was not going to be immediately returned.

The Department continued their relentless requests for unnecessary chemical dependency treatment and questioned the legitimacy of Sophia and Sean's medical marijuana use.

After hearing from all parties, and to the joy of the family

and onlookers, Commissioner Clucas ordered that **Riley be returned home immediately to his parents – that day!**

He also put forth his order with the specific instruction that Riley could not be removed again without another hearing or imminent danger and exigent circumstance that would allow any child to be removed without a hearing according to Washington law.

As part of Riley's return, the Commissioner ordered that both Sean and Sophia participate in chemical dependency assessments (with their medical recommendations provided as collateral information) and continued UA's by request of the Department. He also mentioned that he understood Sophia was challenging the need for the chemical dependency service in her motions that still had yet to be heard, and that this requirement could change pending the outcome of those motions.

Commissioner Clucas ordered that Sean and Sophia allow the Department access to their home and to Riley upon request, but also stated that *"the parents have the right to record the visits. It is their home."*

However, Commissioner Clucas also denied Sophia's motion to discharge the public defender's office as her legal representation. He stated that he could not allow Sophia to represent herself, on the basis that there was a pending termination of parental rights for Zurius.

The Commissioner told her that if he allowed her to proceed without an attorney, and she lost her son, that it would be hard for him to look her in the eye if he ever ran into her at the grocery store – when he was the one who let her go forward without an attorney.

Assistant Attorney General, Rachel Strayhorn, interjected that Sophia had a right to object to the denial of her motion to represent herself if she still wanted to continue pro se. Commissioner Clucas told the AAG that *“obviously Sophia knows how to revise his order”* and *“could do so if she wanted to, or even bring it up again at a later date.”*

Sophia could be seen smiling and nodding in agreement.



Source: Kitsap County Juvenile Court Zoom Hearing.

Commissioner Clucas assigned attorney [Andrew J. Makar](#) as Sophia's new public defender.

Then he took up the issue of the remainder of Sophia's motions, including her motion to dismiss the termination of parental rights petition previously filed by Washington State.

The Commissioner suggested that the motions be determined through a settlement conference, with Judge Jeffrey Bassett mediating the discussions. He spoke about what he felt were the benefits of this kind of conference, including coming to a compromise on the motions without a hearing.

Sophia and the other parties all said they would try to come to an agreement, so a conference was scheduled for October 16th, 2020, and will include all parties in the cases for both Riley and Zurius. Commissioner Clucas also scheduled a review hearing for October 21st, which will of course be open to the public, to review the status of the cases and determine the next steps.

Commissioner Clucas stated that if the public wants to join, it is best to call or log in before the 2:30pm PST start time so that they can be added in advance.

[Court Support Facebook Event Page](#)

Sophia did an amazing job representing herself at the hearing, despite not being allowed to continue pro se. During the hearing, Commissioner Clucas mentioned seeing Sophia at the courthouse filing documents and commended Sophia for her efforts in her case, saying she had *“done an excellent job so far.”*

He also said, *“I wish that you could move on with your education, go to law school and sit here and represent parents”* and then even told her *“when this case is all over with, come talk to me about other ways you can work in this system.”*

Riley returned home the night of September 30th to a very happy Sophia and Sean. The family documented the joyous reunion through [her facebook account](#), with many additional photos and videos following over the next few days.

Sophia says *“having Riley home is a huge relief and gives us all a lot of faith that Zurius will be returning home soon as well.”*

Another blessing that resulted from the court order was Sophia’s mother, Aysha, has been officially declared an “approved caregiver” – something the family had been working on since the beginning of the cases.



Riley returned home. Source: Family.



Riley, Sophia & Grandma Aysha. Source: Family.



Riley returned home. Source: Family.



Riley returned home. Source: Family.

Video of Riley Home

The Department did their required “return home walkthrough” on October 5th, 2020, which was broadcast live through the family support page. Although, one thing is very noticeable about the recording... the camera never shows the social workers.

CPS Walkthrough

Prior to the walkthrough, Sophia had a visit with Zurius. She

says,

“Zurius and I had such a great time. He ran up to me and said, ‘I love you so much Mommy and you make me happy. I pray for you everyday.’ We had so much fun painting and playing legos.”



Z & Sophia's hand prints. Source: Family.

Sophia says that while at that visit, she had a good conversation with Desiree Hovland, the new social worker. She was allegedly told that they don't mind being recorded, they just don't want to be physically recorded. Sophia said she agreed and expressed how she needs them to work with her if they expect her to work with them.

She says,

“I told her from a mother’s point of view why I am having such a hard time. I explained to them that even though there was a founded abuse allegation, IT DID NOT HAPPEN. I love my kids more than life itself and Desiree kept referring to how important it is for children to be with their biological parents.”

Sophia says that Desiree has definitely been different since court and much more open to understanding Sophia’s situation than her previous social workers. She reports that even when she was unable to attend a visitation with Zurius recently, Desiree allowed her to send a video to her son, so that he did not have to miss her that day – something that never happened before.

After connecting with her new public defender, Andrew Makar, Sophia says she feels good about the upcoming settlement conference. Her only goal is to get Zurius home too, so that they can all move on with their lives, and is definitely willing to compromise to make that happen.

With the department still pursuing the chemical dependency angle and forcing the parents to complete unnecessary services paid for by the Washington tax payers, Sophia says she is willing to comply despite the continued invasion of medical privacy and unnecessary urinary analysis.

Already, both Sean and Sophia have been asked by DCYF to complete 2 UA’s each, on 4 separate days, in the last week and a half, with the first occurring immediately the day after court – October 1st.

Sophia says of course they will all be positive for THC because of their use of Medical Marijuana for their chronic

health conditions.

Despite that it takes quite a bit of time and money from the parents, and attention away from Riley, to comply with these unending requests, Sophia hopes by compromising with the social workers it will allow for them to all work together to return Z home as well.

She says,

“I’m still going to be hesitant but I made it clear that as long as they work with me, I am willing to work with them. It’s all about meeting halfway, just like coming to the agreement about no visual recordings of them.”

She is nervous about the upcoming Settlement Conference, but excited to find out where a few compromises might lead in reunifying her family.

In the meantime, a new campaign has been created to demand Washington DCYF [Send Zurius Home](#).

Family advocate, Serra Frank, says,

“What began as a broken arm, allegedly caused by an accident and never truly investigated, has turned into 2 years of unnecessary services and ever-changing demands from the Washington Department of Family, Youth and Children; with the main concern still being his mother’s continued medical marijuana use in legal Washington State.

But the court has made it clear that Medical Marijuana use is not enough to keep the children out of the home because

Riley was returned home last month despite their medical use.

If the home is safe for one child, it is safe for both children. It is time for Washington DCYF to send Zurius home, too!”



Source: Fight for Z and Riley.

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

New petition to send Zurius home - <https://www.change.org/p/washington-dcyf-send-zurius-home>

Additional petition – www.change.org/fight4zandriley

Next Court Hearing – Court Support Facebook Event Page –
<https://www.facebook.com/events/2440921349546500>

Family Support Page – www.facebook.com/fight4zandriley

Family Donation Account –
www.fundrazr.com/fight4zandriley

#Fight4ZandRiley

Contact Everyone:

Washington Leaders:

 Washington Governor Jay Inslee:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov>

Office of the Governor

PO Box 40002

Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Phone: 360-902-4111

 Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler

345 6th Street Suite 600

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Washington Legislators:

 Representative Dan Griffey:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/memberEmail/35/1>

PO Box 40600

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Senator Tim Sheldon:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/memberEmail/35/0>

PO Box 40435

Olympia, WA 98504

(360) 786 - 7668

Fax: (360) 786 - 1999



Senator Patty Murray:

<https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/mobile/contactme>



Senator Maria Cantwell:

<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact>



Representative Derek Kilmer:

<https://kilmer.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Washington Family Continues to Fight to Bring Son Home Who was Medically Kidnapped due to Medical Marijuana



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

For a young Washington Couple that has been fighting for their family over medical kidnapping and medical marijuana use for the last two years, the year 2021 has already been a whole lot different than 2020.

22-year-old Sophia Rosas, and her fiancé, Sean Kilkenny, of Bremerton are definitely grateful for the change.

See our previous stories about this family:

Washington Couple Harassed Over Medical Marijuana Use - Children Kidnapped and Allegedly Scheduled for Adoption

Judge Orders Terrorized Toddler Medically Kidnapped from Parents over Medical Marijuana Use Returned to Family's Custody

Washington Mom Fights to Get Son Back Who Was Wrongfully Taken Away Due to Her Medical Cannabis Treatment

Washington Mother Represents Herself in Court and Beats CPS - Judge Orders Baby Returned Home

Sophia and Sean last appeared in court on November 23rd, 2020.

At that hearing, the Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families fought against changing Sophia's visits with her oldest son, Zurius, from supervised at the office to in-home visits.

Through their attorney, Rachel Van Strayhorn, the department continued to argue that because Sophia kept missing visits with Z, due to her chronic gallbladder condition, that she shouldn't have visits in her home.

But the judge disagreed.

To the joy of the family, and all that attended the ZOOM hearing as court support, Commissioner Matthew Clucas sided with Sophia and her attorney, Andrew Makar, who

argued that the only issue with visits is that they were in the department's office and not in the home.

Clucas ordered that in-home visitation begin immediately with the next visit the following week.





Comm Clucas

sophie



However, in true CPS fashion, that visit was delayed for nearly another week as Social Worker, Desiree Hovland, claimed they did not have a supervisor who could attend the previously scheduled visit. Sophia says,

“They didn’t even let me call my son and tell him the visit wouldn’t happen. So yet again, the department came between me and my child. They made my child think I don’t care about his feelings!”

But their delay tactics couldn't last forever when it was court ordered to happen and on December 3rd, 2020, Zurius arrived at his mother's home for the first time in two years.

Sophia was ecstatic to receive a longer than normal visit, spending four exciting hours with BOTH of her babies in her own home, instead of the 2 hours in a cramped supervision office.



Sophia says,

“It was amazing to say the least. My baby was so happy to be

here in our home. He remembered so many things that were in our old place, and he told me how happy he was to be with me and Riley, and that Riley was HIS baby.”

Brothers, Z and Riley, had only met twice before this visit, and despite their closeness in age, barely knew each other. The department’s involvement in the life of this family had prevented the boys from forging a bond, an issue that is now quickly being remedied thanks to the determination and perseverance of their mother.

Through the month of December, the visits were quickly changed from completely supervised to merely monitored in the home, where a social worker checks in throughout the visit instead of staying in the home for the duration.

Sophia’s mother Aysha was allowed to join the visits, finally seeing her grandson Z for the first time since February 2020—when he had been taken from kinship placement with Sophia’s sister and placed with strangers in foster care.



Thriving at home with his parents, Baby Riley took his first

steps and is now walking everywhere. The boys were able to spend Christmas Eve together with Sophia, opening presents together for the first time since Z was a baby.

Despite these changes, Sophia's relationship with the department remains slightly contentious.

At one point, social workers tried to tell Sophia that she couldn't have home security cameras recording the visits with Zurius, despite the judge having told her and Sean that they had every right to record in their own home.

When Sophia wouldn't budge on the cameras, they relented and Sophia received an email that stated when another new social worker, Lance Smith, took over the case, he would be wearing a GO PRO when he visited the home so the department could record too.



Riley Kilkenny - Social Worker Visits



Russell, Miles F. (ATG)

to [Me & 8 more](#)

12/28/2020, 10:10 AM



Good morning,

Given the circumstances in this case, Social Worker Lance Smith will be wearing a Go Pro during all visits to the home.

If you have any questions, Rachel is out this week on Holiday leave and I am the acting Kitsap Lead.

Thank you.

Miles Felton Russell

Assistant Attorney General
Social and Health Services – Tacoma Division
Washington State Attorney General's Office
1250 Pacific Ave #105
Tacoma, WA 98401
(253) 593-5245

Sean's mother and Riley's grandmother, Jennifer, who had originally been approved by the court to begin visits with Zurius, was denied her visits by the department. Sophia must now take the issue back in front of Commissioner Clucas, despite that he has already ruled on the matter.

There is still a long way to go to get Zurius home for good and the department out of their lives, but things are definitely looking up for the family compared to this time last year when Z was ripped from kinship placement, and Riley was out of the home too.

The Termination of Parental Rights hearing that was

supposed to happen in September, the one that provoked Sophia to take over her own cases and start fighting for her children, continues to be postponed – most recently from January 4th to January 27th, 2021.

The hearing is now scheduled for the same day as the review hearing for both boys' cases. The petition was also originally scheduled to be heard by a different court, but is now also being heard by Commissioner Clucas, in addition to the review of the CPS cases.

Sophia is excited for court coming up this week, and hopes for even more changes to the case. The docket includes her motion for joinder and motion for Z's return home.

The department has been against his return since she filed for it last fall, claiming Sophia is inconsistent with visits as the reason he should stay out of the home.

Sophia says that she has only missed one visit since in-home visits began in December – but due to a doctor's appointment that could not be missed.

She says it is time for Z to come home.

The department has said for months that there isn't a bond between the mother and child, and that this is why Sophia's rights to her son should be terminated; but little Zurius' own words tell a different story.

Sophia says,

“My poor THREE YEAR OLD CHILD made it a point to tell me

that he goes home and cries because he can't see me and be home. He cries and I can't be there for him. My CHILD is being absolutely TRAUMATIZED. He is mad at me because he thinks I DON'T WANT HIM.

Now tell me, would a child that has no bond with his mother run and hide in their room so they didn't have to leave? Would a child and mother cry separately because they can't be with each other if they had no bond to one another?"





Unfortunately, Sophia learned recently that someone in Z's foster home has potentially been exposed to COVID and the family is being quarantined for 14 days; making it so she has to miss visits for the entire duration and might not see Z again until a week after court. She says, unlike her previous social workers,

“Lance Smith accommodated a wonderful phone call yesterday, with no problem. He also set up zoom visits for the next visitation days. I’ll be able to see Z again February 1st.”

The family hopes that it won’t be anything more than a small delay in reunification with Zurius. All are praying that the judge will order the TPR petition dismissed, and for Z to be returned home as soon as the quarantine is over.

Family advocate, Serra Frank, says,

“Riley has been home for several months and is doing great. He is very obviously a very happy baby at home with his parents. If Sean and Sophia can safely parent one child, then they can safely parent BOTH children. It is time to rip off the bandage and send Zurius home where he belongs so that they can all finally start to heal.”

Sophia says,

“I have a lot of faith in court on Wednesday. I have a lot of faith that the commissioner will make the right choices and see how hard we’ve been trying, and will just send our son home. It’s been a long 27 months, and it’s time for us to start family therapy. It’s time for us to mend, and it’s time for us to move on together as a family. Between our little family, and the rest of our family, we’re just this village at a standstill until we get our big boy. My son needs his stability back, and the only way to get that is to come home.”

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Attend the Next Online Court Hearing:

Commissioner Matthew Clucas – 9AM Wednesday 1/27/21
Juvenile Dependency Zoom Meeting Information

<https://zoom.us/j/448406187>

Meeting ID: 448 406 187

Call In: (253) 215-8782 / Meeting ID: 448 406 187

Online Court Support Facebook Event Page -

<https://fb.me/e/22joY8PAk>

Sign the petition to send Zurius home -

<https://www.change.org/p/washington-dcyf-send-zurius-home>

Additional petition - www.change.org/fight4zandriley

Family Support Page - www.facebook.com/fight4zandriley

Family Donation Account -
www.fundrazr.com/fight4zandriley

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 Senator Tim Sheldon:
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 Senator Patty Murray:
<https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/mobile/contactme>

 Senator Maria Cantwell:
<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact>

 Representative Derek Kilmer:
<https://kilmer.house.gov/contact/email-me>

Community Bands Together to Rescue Elderly Woman Medically Kidnapped - The Life of a Senior is Still Precious to Some



A sheriff deputy in Vancouver, Clark County in Washington, grabs a woman by the throat and pushes her out of the hospital. She was attempting to go help her 74-year-old mother who was being detained against her will inside the hospital.

UPDATE: 2/1/21

[Clark County Sheriff and Washington Hospital involved in Medical Kidnapping of Senior Now Lying to Media and Putting lives in Danger!](#)

by Brian Shilhavy

Editor, Health Impact News

In a week where it was reported that the New York State Attorney General admitted that nursing home deaths in New York State for 2020, already recorded as numbering tens of thousands, were undercounted by as much as 50% with Governor Andrew Cuomo reportedly stating “Who cares?”, and where numerous reports all over the world have recorded hundreds of seniors dying in assisted care facilities this week after the roll out of the experimental COVID mRNA injections, something truly amazing happened in Vancouver, Washington last night.

The people of the community, many members of “People’s Rights Washington,” turned out in mass to rescue a 74-year-old woman at Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital where she had been medically kidnapped, and was being held against her will, and against the will of her daughter who has medical power of attorney for her mother.

This group of 40-50 citizens, 90% of whom were women (mothers) and their children, stared down an army dispatched from the Clark County Sheriff’s department in full riot gear, endured being grabbed by the throat and pepper sprayed, and refused to leave the hospital until 74-year-old Gayle Meyer was released back into the custody of her daughter, Satin.

Satin took her mother to the hospital the night before to get treatment for a urinary tract infection (UTI), and had been with her until 4 a.m. before returning home to get a few hours of sleep before heading back to the hospital the next day.

Their primary care physician had already written a

prescription for an antibiotic, and Gayle was supposed to be released and sent home with her daughter, who is also her medical power of attorney.

But when Satin arrived at the hospital, she was told that not only could she not take her mother home, but that she could not even see her mother, because she refused to take a COVID test.

That's when Satin called her friends, who responded by heading to the hospital to find out what was going on. The nursing staff allegedly changed their story a few times, first saying that Gayle had refused to take a COVID test and was therefore being quarantined, but then later allegedly changing their story and stating that Gayle did in fact take a COVID test, and had to remain in the hospital for at least 24 hours until the results of the test came back.

Her daughter Satin, who had been in the hospital with her mother the day before until 4 a.m., had made it clear that her mother did not need nor want a COVID test, since she only had a UTI and was only in the hospital to be put on fluids.

The nurses allegedly also stated to Satin that they had also put her mother on oxygen, which greatly surprised Satin and her friends who were now showing up at the hospital to support her and her mother. Her mother, Gayle, allegedly has never before had to be put on oxygen, and certainly a UTI does not warrant oxygen.

As we have documented many times since COVID started last year, many deaths blamed on COVID in fact are caused by improper treatment, especially when a patient is intubated and put on a ventilator, where the death rate is over 90%.

Obviously becoming very concerned at this point that her mother who had a simple UTI was now being medically kidnapped and forced to stay in the hospital against her will and receive treatments she did not want, Satin and her friends called the County Sheriff office to come and assist them get Gayle out of the hospital.

The woman who filmed the entire ordeal, Kelli Stewart, explained that she had spoken to the Sheriff dispatcher, and she was told that the Sheriff was not going to respond and get involved.

However, as they were talking, the dispatcher allegedly stated that now the hospital had also called, so they were sending officers to the scene.

As you will see in the video below, the Sheriff deputies and officers were there to protect the hospital and Big Pharma, and NOT to represent their constituents and fulfill their oath of office to protect their constituents, and in this case, to prevent a medical kidnapping.

In fact, at one point Satin attempts to enter the hospital behind another patient who was entering, and an officer grabs her by the throat, and pushes her back.

The officer then used pepper spray on the people who were standing outside, who were all unarmed and primarily women and children.

Everything was captured on video, and I have watched the entire 2 hours of film footage, and condensed it down to under 53 minutes. This is from our [Rumble account](#), and it is also available on our [Bitchute Channel](#), and our [Minds.com account](#).

If you want to watch the raw footage of everything as it unfolded, you can watch it on the Ammon Bundy YouTube channel, [here](#) and [here](#). (We have copies if they disappear.)

Interestingly, as I watched the entire two hours of footage, the word “vaccine” never came up once. It was also shocking to see the Sheriff deputy use pepper spray on innocent people. A man was sprayed in the mouth with it, and he spit it out, but it also spread to the others around him, including some children.

And yet one local [CBS Corporate Media outlet](#) described the events of last night quite differently:

'Anti-vax' protest sparks lockdown at ClarkCo hospital

A hospital in the Salmon Creek neighborhood of Clark County went into lockdown on Friday night after a group of “exceptionally unreasonable” people demanded the release of a patient, authorities said.

Deputies with the Clark County Sheriff's Office were called to Legacy Salmon Creek at about 6:30 p.m. after a group of 30 to 40 people gathered outside the hospital. Deputies said the group was there to support a person who had a family member being treated at the hospital and they wanted that person released.

The sheriff's office said the group consisted of “exceptionally unreasonable” people who were “anti-vaxxer, anti-science types” who live-streamed the incident on social media.

A spokesperson at Legacy Salmon Creek told KOIN 6 News around 8:30 p.m. that the hospital was in a so-called “silver lockdown” and no one was being allowed in but people

inside were permitted to leave.

Deputies said they protected the hospital and worked to have the patient — a woman — released. No arrests were made and deputies did not resort to any crowd control measures; however, they said a small scuffle broke out when the hospital went into lockdown.

The group of people tried to enter the hospital through the emergency room entrance and ***someone in the crowd used pepper spray***.

The patient was eventually released and the crowd dispersed at around 9:15 p.m., deputies said. ([Source](#).)

This event clearly illustrates several important truths (besides the obvious fact that you cannot trust the Pharma-controlled corporate media).

First, the people who turned out to stand up for the rights of 74-year-old Gayle Meyer clearly shows that there are still some people left in this country who value human life, including the precious lives of our senior population.

These friends and advocates probably saved her life, because hospitals today are incentivized to treat COVID patients, and if they get them onto ventilators they receive even more COVID medical funding.

Secondly, this event also illustrates that law enforcement will almost always side with the medical tyrants and the medical industrial complex over the individual rights of the patients.

Having covered the issue of Medical Kidnapping for over 6 years now, I can personally vouch for the fact that this is *almost always* the case.

But perhaps the most important lesson this event teaches us, is the fact that when a community decides to act together to oppose the medical tyrants, those tyrants fear them, and their medical tyranny can be resisted.

When the People Fear the Government There is Tyranny, but When Government Fears the People There is Liberty

As Kelli Stewart mentioned several times while filming all of this, this was a real wake-up call for those who thought the “men in blue” were on our side. She mentioned how those on the other side of the political spectrum have decried the abuses of law enforcement for decades now, and it just took a little longer for those on the “Right” side politically to see the same thing.

This gives me great hope, because as I have been writing ever since COVID and medical tyranny took over this country, this is NOT a “Right” versus “Left,” Republicans versus Democrats problem.

This is an issue of *We the People* against the Wall Street Billionaires and Central Bankers who control BOTH sides of the political spectrum, and if we can unite together as *We the People* to fight this medical tyranny, then we can begin to win our country back.

And that is what they fear the most.



[Clark County Sheriff Page](#). Telephone: 564.397.2211 – Email: sheriff@clark.wa.gov

[Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center Page](#). Telephone: 360-487-1000 – [Email](#).

Thanks to **Cassandra Fairbanks** at [Gateway Pundit](#) for breaking this story.

Clark County Sheriff and Washington Hospital involved in Medical Kidnapping of Senior Now Lying to Media and Putting lives in Danger!



Clark County Sheriff Department sent out their entire force with riot gear to protect the hospital from mothers and their children who showed up to protest the medically kidnapping a senior.

by **Brian Shilhavy**
Editor, Health Impact News

Saturday, January 30, 2021, we published the story of how a community of people in Vancouver, Washington, came together to demand that Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital allow an elderly woman who was being held against her will be

allowed to have her daughter, who is also her advocate, caregiver, and power of attorney, come into the hospital to be with her mother.

The people who had gathered also had requested that the Clark County Sheriff department come to the hospital to be a witness and stand up for patient rights.

They allegedly refused to get involved until the hospital called, and then they came with full riot gear to defend the hospital, and stand against the crowd that had showed up (who had originally called them for help!), which was about 90% women (mothers) with their children.

I have watched the entire 2 hours of footage, and condensed it down to less than 53 minutes which you can watch here:

[Community Bands Together to Rescue Elderly Woman Medically Kidnapped – The Life of a Senior is Still Precious to Some](#)

The next day, someone using the name joe neu, using an email address of joe7neu@yahoo.com, from our [Contact Us Page](#) where we clearly state that if anyone uses one of the Big Tech “free” emails, such as yahoo.com (and others), that we probably will not be able to respond back since those services block us, with this email:

two versions same story?

[Community Bands Together to Rescue Elderly Woman Medically Kidnapped – The Life of a Senior is Still Precious to Some](#)

https://www.reddit.com/r/PublicFreakout/comments/l8kevi/antimaskers_denied_entry_into_hospital_by_police/

The first link is to the story I wrote, and the second link is to a post on Reddit with the false headline: “Anti-maskers denied entry into hospital by police.”

Well “joe,” since I probably cannot reach you directly, here is what I tried to write back to you:

Well the fact that you are emailing this to us I guess proves you did not watch the video of what really happened, so that you would know which version is true.

Rebuttal: <https://youtu.be/ac2GEtYMshw>

According to Kelli Stewart who filmed the entire event, the Clark County Sheriff Department and the Hospital have lied to the media, stating that the daughter was denied access to see her mother because she was not wearing a mask.

And the Sheriff department is allegedly stating that people there protesting were open carrying weapons, and wearing gas masks.

None of this is true, but it is the narrative being spread around by the Corporate Media as well as social media, as is evidenced by the link to Reddit.

Watch the video yourself, and you will clearly see that “masks” are never mentioned once, that nobody in the crowd was armed, and nobody in the crowd had “gas masks”

on. In fact, many of them were pepper-sprayed by the Sheriff deputies.

In addition, the daughter has video footage of when she was in the hospital the day before, when she clearly was wearing a mask.

Kelli Stewart has recorded a rebuttal, stating that this false narrative is now putting their lives in danger as they are being labeled a terrorist group, and that they are preparing lawsuits against the Sheriff department and Hospital.

This is on our [Rumble Channel](#), and should be on our [Bitchute channel](#) also soon.

Here is the contact info again for the Sheriff and Hospital:

[Clark County Sheriff Page](#). Telephone: 564.397.2211 – Email: sheriff@clark.wa.gov

[Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center Page](#). Telephone: 360-487-1000 – [Email](#).

Please help spread the truth. For those of you on Reddit who bought into these lies, shame on you! Watch the video!