



DOMESTIC RELATIONS OFFICE

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IN THE XX JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS

IN THE INTEREST OF:

CHILD’S NAME OR INITIALS

MINOR CHILD

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§
§

CAUSE NO.:

LIMITED INVESTIGATION REPORT

Now comes the Domestic Relations Office, Social Worker’s Name, LMSW, Licensed Master Social Worker, in response to the order to provide a Limited Investigation. The order was signed on August 1, 2020.

This report was filed electronically with the office of the Hidalgo County District Clerk and copies were delivered via facsimile to Attorney’s Name, counsel for NCP, and via United States Postal Service to CP who was pro-se.

The Honorable Judge’s Name ordered the DRO to obtain information on the following:

- Information regarding any CPS investigations and findings.
- Any mental health issues of respondent, NCP to include a review and summary of any available mental health documentation pertinent to the Court ordering custody and access to the child.
- Recommendations for any services for the parties other than those ordered herein.
- Complete a Limited Investigation Report and address the following issues:
 - Mental Illness of Parent
 - Domestic Violence in Home
 - Denial of Access Possession
 - Conflict/Communication Problems between Parents
 - Negative Feedback to children by Parent(s)
 - Limiting Communication of Children by Parent(s)
 - Geographical Restriction Issue

CP and NCP are the parents of two-year old, Child’s Name, (child of interest).

1
2 CP was individually interviewed at the DRO office on September 1, 2020. She reported the
3 following concerns during the interview and on the questionnaire provided:

- 4 • NCP's "mental stability." She alleged NCP has a "mental illness history and might black
5 out. He has punched walls and he has a temper."
- 6 • NCP making "racist comments regarding my daughter and parents."
- 7 • Allegedly NCP "has come to my home, calling constantly, and constant threats against
8 my dad."
- 9 • She proposed the following parenting plan for NCP –
 - 10 ○ "Supervised visits" by NCP's parents and a "monitoring process."
 - 11 ○ Exchanges to occur at a neutral place or to be done by a "trusted guardian."

12
13 CP completed the Court Order Orientation Class and the Cooperative Parenting Class on
14 September 5, 2020.

15
16 NCP was individually interviewed telephonically on September 1, 2020. He reported concerns
17 with CP's father being "a threat with guns; he is a sexual offender and I don't like my daughter
18 in that house."

- 19 • He proposed the following parenting plan –
 - 20 ○ "50/50" parenting schedule
 - 21 ○ No child support
 - 22 ○ No parent establishing Child's primary residence
 - 23 ○ No geographical restriction
 - 24 ○ "All decisions of child" to be done by agreement between both parents.
 - 25 ○ "Public" exchanges
 - 26 ○ Step parents to not discipline Child's Name without both parents' consent.

27
28 According to a questionnaire received on September 13, 2020 NCP added the following concerns
29 about CP "denying" him "access" to:

- 30 • "Child."
- 31 • "Child's medical records and school records."
- 32 • "Child's social events such as school graduations, birthdays, and etc."
- 33 • "Child on contacting father (NCP) via phone, video call, and electronic communication
34 such as emails."
- 35 • "Siblings to Child from father's current relationship."
- 36 • "Visitation of Child to grandparents' from father's side."

37
38 NCP completed the Court Ordered Orientation Class on August 2, 2020 and the Cooperative
39 Parenting Class on September 2, 2020.

40 41 **CPS Investigations and Findings**

42
43 According to the Department of Family and Protective Services History (TDFPS/CPS):
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Case Opened	Case Number	Alleged Type of Abuse	Alleged Perpetrator	Alleged Victim(s)	Finding	CPS Worker(s)
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June 1, 2020	0000000	Physical Abuse	CP's boyfriend	Child	Ruled Out	Worker's Name
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Case #000000 records noted the following:

- Based on the information gathered the disposition of the case is “Ruled Out for Physical Abuse” by CP’s boyfriend.
- Rationale for the Ruled Out finding-
 - The child had no bruises or injuries.
 - Mother denied the allegations.
 - Mother denied observing any marks or injuries on the child and the child did not make any outcry to her.
 - Law enforcement advised the case would not be assigned or investigated as it did not involve a criminal matter.
 - Paternal grandmother did not observe any marks or injuries on the child and child has never made an outcry of abuse.
 - CP’s boyfriend denied the allegations.

Mental Health Issues of NCP

NCP reported the following on September 1, 2020:

- In 2020, he received inpatient treatment at “XYZ (Behavioral Health System) for “depression and suicidal.” He was discharged without any psychotropic medication treatment and was recommended to participate in therapy.
- In January or February of 2020, he was evaluated at X State Hospital in City, Texas. NCP was not admitted and there were no recommendations made.
- In 2020, he participated in voluntary psychiatric services with Dr.’s Name, Health and Wellness for “about six to eight months.” NCP was prescribed medication for insomnia and to “treat depression.” He could not remember the name of the medication prescribed. NCP stopped participating in treatment due to financial reasons and relocating back to City, Texas. Dr.’s Name recommended counseling services.
- In 2020, he participated in voluntary counseling services with Mr. Counselor, MA, LPC at Health and Wellness. NCP participated in counseling sessions twice per month for about six to eight months to help him cope with the divorce from CP. He stopped seeing Mr. Counselor when he relocated to City, Texas in October of 2020.
- He received treatment for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) when he was 14 years old for one to two months.
- Currently, he was not receiving mental health treatment. NCP added he “only needs help with insomnia.”

According to a Psychiatric Evaluation dated January 1, 2020 from A State Hospital, City Campus:

- NCP was evaluated by a psychiatrist, but not admitted.
- NCP was brought by the City Police Department after “making suicidal threats to his estranged, soon to be ex-wife. He was escorted off Air Force Base where he works, in handcuffs, and brought here by the City Police Department for further evaluation.”

- 1 • NCP “has no history of suicide attempts or ideations. He states the current alleged
- 2 suicidal ideation was just a verbal threat to get back at his soon to be ex-wife.”
- 3 • There is “no current or past history of harm to others.”
- 4 • There “are no history of substance abuse, even including alcohol, present or past.”
- 5 • “The patient denies any access to guns.”
- 6 • Mental Status Exam –
- 7 ○ “There are no overt delusions.”
- 8 ○ “There are no suicidal, homicidal, aggressive or paranoid ideations.”
- 9 ○ “There are no aggressive ideations or behavior.”
- 10 ○ “There are no depressive or manic signs or symptoms.”
- 11 • Identified the following –
- 12 ○ “Strengths and Assets: Intelligence, Socialized, Judgement”
- 13 ○ “Weaknesses and Liabilities: Confused Family Roles/Poor Interpersonal/Coping
- 14 Skills”
- 15 • Admission was denied as he “did not meet criteria.”

16
17 Several attempts were made to obtain mental health records from Health Behavioral System and
18 Health and Wellness, upon completion of this Limited Investigation, records were not provided
19 by NCP nor were they received from either agency.

20 21 **Domestic Violence in Home**

22
23 CP reported no history of domestic violence or physical abuse between her and NCP. She added
24 there was a history of verbal altercations between her and NCP and the police were contacted on
25 one occasion in 2020. CP explained by verbal altercations she meant “yelling and screaming at
26 each other.”

27
28 NCP reported two altercations between him and CP:

- 29 1. In 2020, there was an argument in City, New Mexico. NCP alleged CP “slapped” him
30 due to an argument started by jealousy towards NCP and his current girlfriend,
31 Girlfriend’s Name. There were no police reports generated concerning this incident.
- 32 2. In October 2020, he indicated there was an incident occurred the night before he was
33 admitted to “Hospital’s Name” and the police were called by a neighbor. NCP alleged CP
34 “was belligerent; I told her ‘I’m going to walk away’ and she was shoving me.” The
35 police arrived and “thought I was a threat because they thought I threw a lamp. After that,
36 I went through a mental breakdown. I said ‘I was tired’ and ‘I was done with this’.”

37 38 **Denial of Access of Possession**

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40 CP reported in January of 2020, she was advised by her attorney to not allow parenting time to
41 NCP “because he (NCP) wasn’t doing anything.” She alleged she told NCP “until we have
42 everything set in stone, I wasn’t going to let her (Child) go over.” She denied any other
43 timeframe where she denied parenting time to NCP.

44
45 NCP reported he was denied parenting time on the following occasions –

- 46 • From January 2020 to November of 2020, he had no parenting time. (NCP resided in
47 City, Texas from November of 2019 to November of 2020).
- 48 • In December of 2020, he did not have parenting time during three weekends.

- 1 • In January of 2020, after three or four weekends of parenting time, CP told him “you are
2 not going to see her (Child) anymore until a Judge signed off an order.”
3 • He reported having no parenting time since January of 2020.
4

5 **Conflict/Communication Problems between Parents**

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7 CP reported having no communication with NCP since January or February 2020. She would
8 like the communication to be via electronic mail or text message. CP added “I just want a
9 parenting relationship” with NCP.
10

11 CP reported the following issues are preventing an effective communication between her and
12 NCP –

- 13 • “He is not willing to compromise.”
14 • “He tries to talk about the past.”
15 • “He wants to control everything.”
16 • “He wanted an update” and to “keep him informed” during her parenting time.
17

18 NCP reported having no communication with CP since March 20, 2020. He alleged CP
19 “blocked” his telephone calls and Facebook contact. In the past, they used to communicate
20 through electronic mail and on one occasion CP sent him an electronic message telling him he
21 did not “deserved to be a father.”
22

23 **Negative Feedback to Children by Parent(s)**

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25 CP reported Child loves her father and she tells her (Child) “mommy and daddy are living at two
26 separate homes, but we still love you.” She denied Child being aware of court proceedings or
27 asking about the reasons she is not having contact with her father.
28

29 NCP alleged to have heard “rumors” about CP and her parents speaking “negatively” about NCP
30 to Child. He alleged he has also heard, CP has been “pushing for her boyfriend to be the father
31 figure to my daughter.”
32

33 NCP reported he is not allowing his family or girlfriend speak “bad” about CP or to discuss the
34 court case in front of Child.
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36 **Limiting Communication of Children by Parent**

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38 CP reported Child is not having contact with NCP “whatsoever.” She alleged they have tried
39 video conference and “his (NCP) thing is that it has to be every night and I don’t have time every
40 night.” CP added during Child’s video conferences with NCP, he “wanted me to be present. He
41 pushes me into the conversation.”
42

43 NCP reported the “only way to contact his daughter is through mom.” He alleged he has tried to
44 contact Child, but CP “ignores me.” NCP added he has started doing “welfare checks every two
45 weeks to a month” to verify Child is doing well and every time, no concerns have been reported
46 by the police.

1
2 **Geographical Restriction Issue**
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4 CP reported wanting a geographical restriction for Child to the state of Texas. She does not agree
5 with NCP's request for no geographical restriction as he "wants to be able to move her whenever
6 he goes."
7

8 NCP expressed his concern with having a geographical restriction due to his "job field." He
9 added he wants Child to be able to relocate if "she wishes to move."

10 **Recommendations for any Services**
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12 It is recommended CP and NCP use an electronic application for communication and effective
13 co-parenting. There are several applications available including: Our Family Wizard
14 (www.ourfamilywizard.com) which charges fees and free applications such as Talking Parents
15 (www.talkingparents.com) and App Close (www.appclose.com). These platforms are designed to
16 work on either a desktop computer or as an application for an electronic device. These platforms
17 assist parents in keeping track of parenting time requests, financial, educational and medical
18 information.
19

20 It is recommended CP and NCP communicate regarding Child and follow the proposed
21 guidelines for electronic mail, phone and/or text messaging communication; the parties should:

- 22 • Discuss one topic at a time
- 23 • Keep messages short and to the point
- 24 • Write in small caps
- 25 • Do not use exclamation marks
- 26 • State information eloquently; ask
- 27 • Do not discuss personal feelings or any other issues not related to Child
- 28 • Do not use sarcasm, demands, or threats
- 29 • Do not lecture one another
30

31 The Limited Investigation case will be closed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Social Worker's Name, MSW, LMSW
Licensed Master Social Worker
Family Court Services