

To: Sunset Commission,

My name is Rev. T.R. Allen, founder of Freedom Fighter's For Families. We are one of countless organizations setup to expose ongoing legislative violations committed by the *Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)*

I am requesting an opportunity to testify at the public hearing in the month of June 2014. My family and I were severely victimized by this agency. As a result of DFPS mishandling of our case, a federal lawsuit was filed on behalf of myself and my grandbabies.

Below is a brief description of our story

On August 23, 2009, I contacted DFPS seeking their assistance due to my daughter abusing drugs and having my grandbabies ages 2 and 3 at the time, in an unsafe environment. Three months later I received a call from the DFPS investigator. She stated that she had overlooked the case and had to remove the children or she would lose her job.

I informed the investigator that my daughter had placed her children in my care and was in the process of admitting herself into a drug rehab. I assured her that the children were safe, happy and doing very well. She ignored my comment and restated that she had to remove the children or she would lose her job.

Immediately after speaking with the investigator, I went to my daughter's job and informed her of my conversation with the investigator. She and I begin trying to call the investigator but only got her voicemail. We left her several messages asking her to return our calls, but she never responded.

After several unsuccessful attempts to contact the investigator, I requested to speak with her supervisor. I was transferred to the supervisor. I briefed her on the matter. She told me she was on her way to court and would call me back but she never did.

Once again, I made several attempts to contact the supervisor but was unsuccessful. Therefore, I requested to speak with the program director, in which I was transferred. I spoke with the program director and enlightened her on the situation. She told me she would look into the matter and call me back.

On December 3, 2009, Instead of receiving a call back from the program director, I received a call from the supervisor who was very upset. She made it clear that she did not appreciate me speaking with the program director. *She told me that I would be sorry for going over her head.*

Frightened and frantic by her threat, I pretend that I had another call and asked her to hold on the line. While she was on hold, I called Faye Guillory and told her about the threat made by the supervisor. I asked her to allow me to conference her in on the call to witness the rest of the conversation, and she agreed.

I switch back over to the supervisor. She continued venting on how outraged she was because I spoke to the program director and *she vowed again that I would be sorry for going over her head.*

I tried explaining to her that I spoke with the program director because no one else was returning my calls. I begged her not to remove my grandbabies and reminded her that it was me who contacted them requesting their assistance with protecting my grandbabies.

I told her that it would devastate them and our family if the children were removed and placed with strangers. *Her last words to me before she hung up the phone in my face were “You’re going to be sorry for going over my head”.*

On Friday December 4, 2009, 4 days shy of my granddaughter's 3rd birthday, DFPS supervisor made good on her threat.

An investigator came to my home, forced her way in and removed my grandbabies placing them in fostercare. I reported this matter to DFPS director requesting his assistance, but was completely ignored.

Therefore, January 2010. I filed a complaint with the Ombudsman in Austin, Texas. DFPS provided them with false documents, including a false court order denying me visitation. The ombudsman denied my complaint without conducting a proper investigation. They failed to interview my witnesses or review my documents. They based their decision solely on the words of DFPS. *Even though they had an email from the program director admitting that DFPS mishandled the case. (I have a copy of this email)*

In an attempt to get a proper investigation, I drove to Austin, TX to request that someone review and compare my documents with what they had received from DFPS. Several hours later, after being given the run around, I finally got a chance to meet with someone.

The person I met with reviewed some of my documents and admitted that the case looked suspicious, but there was nothing they could do. When I asked why, he became extremely defensive. Then, for some unknown reason, he made a comment regarding me my skin color being darker than my grandbabies and asked if I was their biological grandmother.

This comment was witnessed by Tina Charles, a longtime friend who accommodated me to Austin for moral support.

When I returned home from Austin, I was devastated, confused and hopeless. I didn't know which way to turn.

Our case was being heard before the associate judge, who would not allow me to speak in court. Finally, after a long and strenuous battle, I was able to alert the elected judge of what DFPS was doing.

The elected judge heard our case and ordered that my grandbabies be returned to me immediately. DFPS refused to return the children. It wasn't until I contacted the court informing them that DFPS were refusing to follow the courts order, that the children were returned.

On November 22, 2011, a federal lawsuit was filed on behalf of my grandbabies and I against DFPS and their agents. Evidence supporting the lawsuit show that DFPS violated our constitutional rights, federal court order, fabricated reports, committed perjury, manipulated court documents, tampered with court files and falsified the judge's signature on court orders.

Their falsifying of reports resulted in having my then 3 year old grandson, misdiagnosed by their therapist and placed on numerous psychotropic drugs. In which he suffers side effects from to this day. In addition to that, they also falsified a court order which deprived me of visiting my grandbabies for over 11 months.

The Department of Family and Protective Service has been out of control for far too long. This is a good agency that has become so corrupt, it is beyond repair. It would be insane to allow this agency to continue destroying good families for profit.

Due to its horrific reputation, no one wants to work for them or make a report.

As a minister and a victim I am compelled to assist good families victimized by the corruption of this agency in their fight to be reunited with their children. I pledge to do all I can and work with whomever I need to, in order to expose and bring to justice corrupt DFPS agents.

In closing, it is my prayer that you grant me an opportunity to testify at your upcoming public hearing.

I thank you in advance for your review of DFPS and for your consideration regarding my request to testify at the public meeting.

Humbly submitted,

Rev. T.R. Allen

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Freedom Fighters For Families