

1 STATE OF MICHIGAN

2 27<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

3 In the Matter of,

4 ALYSSA AND AMBER KEAST

File No. 04-5078-NA

5 \_\_\_\_\_ /  
6  
7 TRANSCRIPT

8 POST-TERMINATION REVIEW HEARING

9 BEFORE THE HONORABLE TERRENCE R. THOMAS, FAMILY COURT JUDGE

10 White Cloud, Michigan - Wednesday, August 9, 2006

11 APPEARANCES:

12 Attorney for Department:

MR. CURTIS S. SLATINA, P66988  
1092 Newell  
White Cloud, Michigan 49349  
(231) 689-7283

14 Department of Human Services:

MS. LACEY GONZALEZ-BORSTLER  
White Cloud, Michigan 49349  
(231) 689-5575

17 Attorney for the Children:

MR. CHRISTINE FRISBIE, P46672  
1206 E. James  
White Cloud, Michigan 49349  
(231) 924-6200

23 RECORDED BY:

Marilyn J. Hall CER 6579  
CERTIFIED ELECTRONIC RECORDER  
24 (231) 689-7275  
25

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1  
2  
3 WITNESSES:

4 None.

5  
6 EXHIBITS:

7 None.  
8  
9  
0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5

1 White Cloud, Michigan

2 Wednesday, August 9, 2006 - beginning at 3:05 p.m.

3 THE COURT: Apparently all I have is this post-  
4 termination review?

5 MR. SLATINA: Keast, your Honor.

6 MS. GONZALEZ-BORSTLER: Last but not least.

7 MR. SLATINA: I'd like to next call the matter of the  
8 Keast minors, case number 05-005315, today is the time and date  
9 set for a post-termination review hearing. Curt Slatina  
10 appearing on behalf of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, present  
11 with me is Lacey Gonzalez-Borstler from Newaygo County DHS. I'd  
12 ask the court to mark and admit the report, accept the  
13 recommendations in the report.

14 MS. FRISBIE: Christine Frisbie on behalf of the minor  
15 children, no objection to the report being marked and admitted  
16 and the recommendations being ordered.

17 THE COURT: We've got Alyssa and Amber.

18 MS. GONZALEZ-BORSTLER: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Five year old and--

20 MS. GONZALEZ-BORSTLER: --Amber's a four year old in a  
21 week.

22 THE COURT: Yeah, where are they now?

23 MS. GONZALEZ-BORSTLER: They are in foster care with  
24 the same foster mother throughout this whole ordeal. She does  
25 not feel it's in their best interest for her to be the adoptive

1 parent. She believes that those children need a two-parent  
2 family. I wish she would reconsider, but that's not going to  
3 happen. She's done wonderful with those two.

4 THE COURT: Do the children have any problems?

5 MS. GONZALEZ-BORSTLER: They've had a lot of  
6 behavioral issues. Alyssa has anxiety disorder, post-traumatic  
7 stress; they've been through so much and in so little time for  
8 their age. We--I've made a--they are on medication and that  
9 seems to be helping. There are some attachment issues there, if  
10 the foster mom leaves for a few days for a training, she's a  
11 mental health professional herself, so, you know, they'll have  
12 some behavior issues if she's out of the picture.

13 THE COURT: So, they're not easy children to find a  
14 home for?

15 MS. GONZALEZ-BORSTLER: Pardon me?

16 THE COURT: They're not easy children to find a home  
17 for?

18 MS. GONZALEZ-BORSTLER: Well, I don't think so, but at  
19 the same time we have referred the case to adoption. Bethany was  
20 assigned, Bethany Christian Services was assigned, there is a  
21 worker, Suzanne Adams. Unfortunately at this point we've had--  
22 well; we've had two interested parties, both relatives, submit  
23 intents that they would be interested in adopting. However, one  
24 relative is on the Central Registry and the other relative are  
25 the grandparents, and the children were actually when they were



1 removed, were living at grandma and grandpa's and grandfather was  
2 smoking marijuana; there were allegations, unsubstantiated  
3 allegations of physical abuse. This is a case where, if you  
4 remember, Mrs. Erica Keast, the children's mother has reported  
5 smoking marijuana with her father since she was 15 years old.  
6 It's also the case where the grandfather was going to the school  
7 without permission and trying to see the children, and taking  
8 photographs at one point in a neighbor's parking lot, while  
9 Alyssa was at recess. So, I'm not thrilled about the prospect of  
10 adoption with a family member, I'm actually against it. But  
11 Bethany is going to be doing their home studies and assessments  
12 and we'll see what happens. She has told me that on the chance  
13 that the relatives were denied that she has a home in mind that's  
14 non-relative, that would be an appropriate place for the  
15 children.

16 THE COURT: Well, it appears that reasonable efforts  
17 are being made, although progress is slow relative to the  
18 adoption of these children. The record can also reflect we got a  
19 letter from the mother here in July, addressed to the court, that  
20 even though she recognized she had terminated her rights to the  
21 children she didn't want them to continue in foster care. Let's  
22 see, back in March I signed off on my children, is there any way  
23 I can petition the court to give my children to someone I know?  
24 I don't want my children in foster care anymore. I want to know  
25 that they are safe and being cared for. I'm being held in cell

1 B-7, thank you for your time, and hope to hear from you soon.

2 MS. FRISBIE: Your Honor, I just saw her in court too,  
3 she was charged with a felony.

4 MR. SLATINA: I think she just pled to something,  
5 actually I think it's a larceny.

6 MS. FRISBIE: She said--and I saw her in the hallway,  
7 and I said, what are you doing here? She said, I'm still having  
8 trouble.

9 THE COURT: That's too bad.

10 MS. FRISBIE: Yeah.

11 THE COURT: I guess I made the appropriate finding.

12 MR. SLATINA: Thank you, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: That's all for today, thanks.

14 (At 3:10 p.m., proceedings concluded)

15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

1 STATE OF MICHIGAN)

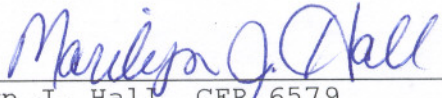
2 COUNTY OF NEWAYGO)

3 I certify that this transcript consisting of 7 pages, is a  
4 complete, true, and correct transcript of the proceedings and  
5 testimony taken in this case on Wednesday, August 9, 2006.

6 DATED: April 1, 2007  
7

8

9



10 Marilyn J. Hall CER 6579  
11 27<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, Family Division  
12 1092 Newell, PO Box 885  
White Cloud, Michigan 49349  
(231) 689-7275

13 *This transcript is not a certified copy unless signed with an original signature.*  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25