

NO: FBT-FA19-6088163S : SUPERIOR COURT  
CHRISTOPHER AMBROSE : JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
OF FAIRFIELD  
v. : AT BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT  
KAREN AMBROSE : AUGUST 22, 2019

BEFORE THE HONORABLE EDDIE RODRIGUEZ, JR., JUDGE

A P P E A R A N C E S :

Representing the Plaintiff:

ATTORNEY NANCY ALDRICH  
Aldrich & Aldrich  
152 Kings Highway North  
Westport, CT 06880

Representing the Defendant:

ATTORNEY RICHARD CALLAHAN  
2830 Old Dixwell Avenue  
Hamden, CT 06518

Recorded By:  
Jennifer Ocasio

Transcribed By:  
Jennifer Ocasio  
Court Recording Monitor  
1061 Main Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06604

1 THE COURT: Good afternoon, everyone.

2 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Good afternoon, Your Honor.

3 ATTY. ALDRICH: Good morning, Your Honor.

4 Attorney Nancy Aldrich for Chris --

5 THE COURT: Just one moment please, folks.

6 ATTY. ALDRICH: Yeah.

7 THE COURT: Let me just get the Edison back up.

8 THE CLERK: And, Your Honor, this is number 62  
9 from Judge Egan's docket, *Ambrose v. Ambrose*.

10 THE COURT: All right. What number was that  
11 please?

12 THE CLERK: 62.

13 THE COURT: 6-2?

14 THE CLERK: Yes.

15 THE COURT: All right. That appears as docket  
16 number 19-6088163. The matter is captioned  
17 Christopher v. Karen Ambrose. And there are multiple  
18 motions that are down for today. And would counsel  
19 please identify yourselves for the record.

20 ATTY. ALDRICH: Nancy Aldrich for Christopher  
21 Ambrose, the plaintiff, Your Honor, who's in court.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, Richard Callahan on  
24 behalf of Karen (indiscernible) Ambrose is to my  
25 left.

26 THE COURT: All right. Let me just pull up this  
27 file on the screen here. Attorney Aldrich, you have

1 brought this action seeking a dissolution on behalf  
2 of your client and --

3 ATTY. ALDRICH: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: -- and there's been a return of  
5 service. And there are multiple motions that are  
6 down on today's docket. It's obviously 4 o'clock  
7 right now. And I'd like to get from you, and then  
8 Attorney Callahan, your claims of what motions you'd  
9 like to prosecute today bearing in mind that we have  
10 a limited amount of time left. So I'll turn to you  
11 as the plaintiff's attorney --

12 ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: -- with that question, followed by  
14 Attorney Callahan, the same question.

15 ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you, Your Honor. First of  
16 all, I represent the plaintiff, Christopher Ambrose.

17 There are three children involved that are born of  
18 this marriage, a nine year old and two twelve year  
19 olds. And the motion that we filed with the  
20 complaint for a divorce was a motion for therapy. So  
21 that is something that I think is necessary in this  
22 case and that was one motion that I would like --  
23 and it's not -- it didn't appear on the calendar,  
24 although it was reclaimed all at the same time. It  
25 was filed with the complaint.

26 THE COURT: What's the number, if you would  
27 please?

1           ATTY. ALDRICH: The number, Your Honor, is 101.

2           So that is a motion I would like Your Honor to hear,  
3           which is very short. I think the children need  
4           therapy and I'll explain that. Then there's a motion  
5           to appoint a GAL, which I also think is important in  
6           this case based on the facts you're going to hear.  
7           There's a motion for custody and parenting and so a  
8           parenting plan needs to be --

9           THE COURT: If you -- if you don't mind --

10          ATTY. ALDRICH: Sorry. And the numbers?

11          THE COURT: Yes, please.

12          ATTY. ALDRICH: Sure.

13          THE COURT: That'll be helpful.

14          ATTY. ALDRICH: Absolutely. 103 is the motion  
15          for the GAL.

16          THE COURT: Okay.

17          ATTY. ALDRICH: And the custody and parenting is  
18          105. And then lastly, a motion for referral to  
19          Family Relations, 108. They're all fairly  
20          intertwined, Your Honor. There will be no financial  
21          hearing today. We did not receive a financial  
22          affidavit prior to today's hearing and there's been  
23          no financial discovery yet.

24                 So the most important thing and the reason we're  
25          here is that the children were taken from the marital  
26          home by -- with police officers present at the home.

27                 The mother removed the three children from the home

1 and took them to Rhode Island. The reason there was  
2 no ex parte emergency motion filed was because she  
3 said she would return in a week. She didn't say that  
4 right away, but she said that to my client, the  
5 father of the children. But he was denied access to  
6 the children, denied phone calls to the children  
7 during that period of time.

8 Not only did she not return them home in a week  
9 as she had promised, she stayed another week. She  
10 still didn't return them home. And then now she is  
11 continuing to keep them. In fact, this is her entire  
12 family here and we don't know where the children are.

13 He's still -- I have asked just now where the  
14 children are and the children are with a nephew, a  
15 teenage nephew.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 ATTY. ALDRICH: In Rhode Island. They are not  
18 back here.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 ATTY. ALDRICH: We are requesting today a  
21 parenting plan, a temporary parenting plan, that  
22 would give shared custody. Both of these parties are  
23 unemployed and have taken care of the children  
24 together in the marital home in Westport,  
25 Connecticut.

26 THE COURT: Okay. Let me -- let me interrupt  
27 you --

1           ATTY. ALDRICH:  Yup.

2           THE COURT:  -- because all I wanted to know is  
3 what the items were --

4           ATTY. ALDRICH:  The motions.

5           THE COURT:  -- that you would like to have heard  
6 today.  And I can tell you right now that they're not  
7 all going to be heard in the amount --

8           ATTY. ALDRICH:  Oh, I understand.

9           THE COURT:  -- in the amount of time that we  
10 have left.  So same question to you, Attorney  
11 Callahan.  Do you agree that's 101, 103, 105 and 108  
12 or not?

13          ATTY. CALLAHAN:  I believe that they're before  
14 the Court.  I believe that they do need to be heard,  
15 whether the Court should be hearing them today --

16          THE COURT:  We're talking about today only.

17          ATTY. CALLAHAN:  Yeah.

18          THE COURT:  Right now.

19          ATTY. CALLAHAN:  I think that the Court should  
20 take up the motion for GAL because I think the GAL  
21 would be necessary to provide testimony on the motion  
22 for custody and parenting access.  I think that the  
23 Court can and -- take up the motion for referral to  
24 Family Relations.  I believe, Your Honor, that the  
25 Court should address some of the financial issues.  
26 And I hear that --

27          THE COURT:  Are there financial affidavits on

1 file?

2 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Well, so --

3 THE COURT: Today? Right now?

4 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Well, there are not but --

5 THE COURT: All right. We'll need those for me  
6 to address them obviously.

7 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I -- well, but they -- the  
8 statement was it shouldn't happen because they  
9 haven't received one. To me, that's a little  
10 disingenuous because my client's been a stay at home  
11 mother since the children were adopted. She hasn't  
12 been employed so they know that the income is zero.  
13 And with regard to assets, they know that Mr. Ambrose  
14 is the one and I have been saying I have no access to  
15 that information that I could even begin to draft a  
16 financial affidavit.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Attorney Aldrich gave me the  
18 four motions. If you have another that you want to  
19 add, please address me on that -- that item with a --

20 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes, Your Honor. The --

21 THE COURT: -- with the number.

22 ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- motion for alimony and  
23 support, motion to -- contribution to expenses.

24 THE COURT: And what number is the motion?

25 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I'm -- I'm looking right now,  
26 Your Honor.

27 THE COURT: All right. Well, please --

1           ATTY. CALLAHAN: I did hear you ask that of  
2 counsel. The motion for counsel fees is --

3           THE COURT: I'm not going to entertain motion  
4 for counsel fees today, I'll tell you right now.

5           ATTY. CALLAHAN: That's fine. All right. I was  
6 just telling --

7           THE COURT: In light of the hour.

8           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Okay.

9           THE COURT: Okay. So what -- which ones would  
10 you like to prosecute, in addition to the ones that  
11 Attorney Aldrich has mentioned.

12          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Well, so the Court knows, 103  
13 is my motion.

14          THE COURT: Okay.

15          ATTY. CALLAHAN: It's the motion to appoint GAL.  
16 The motion for PL orders regarding parenting --

17          THE COURT: Number?

18          ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- is 105, but I believe that  
19 that should wait the advice of counsel of a guardian,  
20 motion number 106 is motion for alimony and child  
21 support, motion 107 is motion towards contribution of  
22 expenses. And I do not object to the motion with  
23 regard -- that has not been on the calendar but  
24 should be heard is the motion for therapy, which I  
25 believe was 101.

26          THE COURT: Okay.

27          ATTY. CALLAHAN: That was announced.

1 THE COURT: Now, let me address counsel because  
2 I know that -- I've seen you both in the courthouse  
3 all day, physically, and I think I saw Attorney  
4 Aldrich on another unrelated case. Is there an issue  
5 with regards to the appointment of a guardian ad  
6 litem or are you in agreement with that regard?

7 ATTY. ALDRICH: We're in agreement.

8 ATTY. CALLAHAN: We're in agreement.

9 THE COURT: Okay. So I'm going to grant that  
10 subject to you filling out the appropriate forms and  
11 hopefully agreeing on the matter of compensation, in  
12 addition to selecting the guardian ad litem. So that  
13 item is granted by the Court by agreement of the  
14 parties. Again, there are these forms that they came  
15 out with recently. I haven't had a -- haven't even  
16 seen any of them yet but they'll assist you at either  
17 Family Relations or Case Flow to fill out these forms  
18 for the appointment of guardian. So we're putting  
19 the cart before the horse but for purposes of getting  
20 this thing moving I'm ruling in favor of the motion  
21 for the guardian ad litem from the bench today.

22 Now, the other item that you mentioned is the  
23 referral to Family Relations. Am I to assume that  
24 both parties are in agreement that motion be granted  
25 as well?

26 ATTY. ALDRICH: I would like that granted, Your  
27 Honor.

1           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes, Your Honor.

2           THE COURT: The referral?

3           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Just the referral for --

4           THE COURT: Just the referral.

5           ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- for a suggestion on  
6 services, yes, Your Honor.

7           THE COURT: All right. Then I'm ordering that  
8 the matter be referred to the Family Relations  
9 Division. Number 108 is granted today right now from  
10 the bench. And we have the business of this motion  
11 for therapy. Is that an issue that the parties wish  
12 to have an adjudication from the Court? Or is that  
13 something that can be worked out?

14          ATTY. CALLAHAN: No. I would suggest that it be  
15 granted and that the parties through their counsel  
16 review what providers are available through their  
17 insurance, and perhaps get recommendations of the  
18 pediatrician, the children's pediatrician, but that  
19 the parties agree through counsel. And if for some  
20 reason there is no agreement on what therapist should  
21 be -- should be selected we bring it back to the  
22 Court. But I would -- I would be hopeful that  
23 counsel and I would be able to select from -- select  
24 from a provider list with the assistance of a  
25 recommendation from a pediatrician.

26          ATTY. ALDRICH: I'm fully in agreement with  
27 that, Your Honor. So we have an agreement on each of

1           those issues. The only thing I would request from  
2           Your Honor is a deadline on these. Time is of the  
3           essence of this and to delay this is -- the therapy  
4           for the children has already been delayed nine  
5           months. So this is something that's imperative and  
6           I'd like a deadline.

7           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, so I know that the  
8           representations of counsel are not evidence and I  
9           know that is not lost upon the Court, so I'm not  
10          going to go back and forth if --

11          THE COURT: Well, other than -- I have to  
12          respond. I'm sorry to interrupt you, Attorney  
13          Callahan.

14          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yeah.

15          THE COURT: The matter has a -- a filing date of  
16          July 22<sup>nd</sup> of 2019. So with regards to a delay in  
17          therapy, that must've been obviously outside of this  
18          Court and between the parties. Again, forgive me for  
19          interrupting, but to move this along I'm going to  
20          grant the motion for therapy. And I believe that  
21          counsel should be able to agree on the issues in that  
22          process within a period of two weeks.

23          ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you, Your Honor.

24          THE COURT: And if not -- and do -- do you  
25          disagree with me, Attorney Callahan and Attorney  
26          Aldrich?

27          ATTY. ALDRICH: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: You should be able to do that in two  
2 weeks, Attorney Callahan?

3 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 ATTY. ALDRICH: As well as the GAL, Your Honor,  
6 just to have that so we can make a decision and come  
7 to an --

8 THE COURT: Well, I'm granting the motions.

9 ATTY. ALDRICH: Again, the --

10 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Meaning that if we --

11 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- timing.

12 ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- if we do not agree on the  
13 selection of the GAL I just --

14 THE COURT: I can't imagine that you won't be  
15 able to agree on the selection of a GAL, but be that  
16 as it may we'll give you a two week --

17 ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: -- timeframe within which to --

19 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: -- report to the Court the identity  
21 of the guardian ad litem and also the -- the  
22 necessary forms which include the agreement regarding  
23 compensation for the guardian ad litem services.

24 Now, we have the referral to Family Relations,  
25 the motion for therapy and the guardian ad litem.  
26 The only thing left now would be --

27 ATTY. ALDRICH: Is 105.

1 THE COURT: -- the parenting plan, custody and  
2 parenting schedule and also the question of -- I can  
3 tell you, the alimony and child support, I don't feel  
4 comfortable addressing financial issues without  
5 proper financial statements submitted by both  
6 parties. So I'm not inclined to hear that today.  
7 And only for that reason, to be candid about it.

8 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Then is there an order that  
9 Your Honor will enter that financial affidavits  
10 should be submitted within a certain period of time?

11 THE COURT: I think financial affidavits should  
12 be submitted within the two weeks that you're getting  
13 for the other items so that you have plenty of time  
14 to present any documentation you need to present to  
15 support the allegations or statements on the  
16 financial affidavit.

17 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Or -- or --

18 ATTY. ALDRICH: That's fine, Your Honor.

19 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, I would say within  
20 two weeks. But if there was a hearing prior to those  
21 two weeks, I would ask that that be accelerated to  
22 five days before any hearing if there was a hearing  
23 date selected prior to the two week time period.

24 THE COURT: All right. The date I'm picking is  
25 September 5<sup>th</sup>, which is exactly two weeks from today  
26 after the Labor Day weekend. The referral, if you  
27 have time, you can let Family know and they might be

1           able to give you something to start with that regard,  
2           the referral to Family Relations. You might be able  
3           to do that before you leave the building.

4           So I'd like to now take testimony with regards  
5           to the -- the physical custody and the legal custody  
6           that I guess both parties were claiming. That's the  
7           major conflict. Am I -- am I correct?

8           ATTY. ALDRICH: Correct, Your Honor. And I  
9           understand that --

10          THE COURT: Mr. Callahan?

11          ATTY. CALLAHAN: It is, but I --

12          THE COURT: Well --

13          ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- I would argue to Your Honor  
14          that in the next 50 minutes we are not going to  
15          conclude that hearing and so I --

16          THE COURT: You don't have to argue the obvious,  
17          Counsel.

18          ATTY. CALLAHAN: So --

19          THE COURT: Please.

20          ATTY. CALLAHAN: So what I would suggest, Your  
21          Honor, is that we pick a new date and we probably can  
22          pick -- spend the time today selecting a GAL and  
23          reporting that back to the Court so that perhaps we  
24          can get the GAL out there and that GAL can come back  
25          with us on the date that we select to commence a  
26          hearing that, by Your Honor's own words, it's obvious  
27          we aren't going to finish anyhow today.

1           So it would make more sense, operational wise,  
2           from a management of the case, to -- for us to spend  
3           our time today trying to agree on the GAL, put that  
4           before the Court and then reach out to that GAL and  
5           make sure that they're available on the day that  
6           we're going to come back and have evidence with  
7           regard to custody.

8           ATTY. ALDRICH: Finished?

9           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes.

10          ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, I was here all day.

11          I waited for Attorney Callahan. I've been here all  
12          afternoon. We went to Family Relations. We weren't  
13          able to work this out. We are here because these  
14          children had been kept away from their father for  
15          three weeks. I want an order, Your Honor, today --

16          THE COURT: All right. Let me have a moment,  
17          Counsel. I don't disagree with you.

18          ATTY. ALDRICH: Okay.

19          THE COURT: And I kind of --

20          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Well --

21          THE COURT: -- disagree with you because we're  
22          going to use some of this time today with regards to  
23          that item, especially since allegations have been  
24          made. And as you correctly pointed out, Attorney  
25          Callahan --

26          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

27          THE COURT: -- statements of counsel are not

1 evidence.

2 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes.

3 THE COURT: But there's been some allegation  
4 here that the children were removed from the state of  
5 Connecticut without permission from the Court and  
6 without the consent of the parties and the children  
7 are not physically in Connecticut now. I presume  
8 they've been attending school in Connecticut?

9 ATTY. ALDRICH: They start school after Labor  
10 Day, Your Honor.

11 ATTY. CALLAHAN: September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

12 ATTY. ALDRICH: And they go to school in  
13 Connecticut.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 ATTY. ALDRICH: They reside in Connecticut and  
16 they've --

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- currently been out of the  
19 state for three --

20 THE COURT: I understand.

21 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- weeks.

22 THE COURT: I understand.

23 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, there is no claim  
24 that they're not going to be returning to the school  
25 that the parties have already signed contracts for in  
26 the town of Madison and that --

27 THE COURT: The problem, Counsel, is obvious to

1 the Court already. The problem is that this is a  
2 self-help situation and that's what we have courts  
3 for. The courts have to be involved in these events  
4 otherwise children are damaged permanent --

5 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Fair enough.

6 THE COURT: -- permanently damaged.

7 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Fair enough.

8 THE COURT: Now let's see here. So what we'll  
9 address now so that the record is clear is item  
10 number 105, and that's Karen Ambrose's pendente lite  
11 motion for custody and parenting orders -- excuse me  
12 -- so that Attorney Callahan, it's your motion, you  
13 may call your first witness.

14 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I'll call Mr. Ambrose to the  
15 stand.

16

1    **C H R I S T O P H E R    A M B R O S E ,**

2           of 1 Hemlock Hill Road, Westport, Connecticut, called as  
3    a witness by the Defendant, being first duly sworn, was  
4    examined and testified under oath as follows:

5           THE CLERK:   Please state your name and address  
6           for the record.

7           THE WITNESS:   Christopher Ambrose, 1 Hemlock  
8           Hill Road, Westport, Connecticut, 06880.

9           THE CLERK:   Thank you.

10          THE COURT:   Counsel, when you're ready you may  
11          proceed.

12          ATTY. CALLAHAN:   Thank you.

13    **DIRECT EXAMINATION BY ATTORNEY CALLAHAN:**

14          Q    Mr. Ambrose, tell the Court the names of your  
15          children and their ages.

16          A    Mia Catherine Ambrose, she's 12; Matthew Christopher  
17          Ambrose, he's 12; and Sawyer Elias Ambrose is 9.

18          Q    Mia, Matthew is 12.

19          A    Mia and Matthew are both 12 and Sawyer is 9.

20          Q    Okay.   And all three of these children were adopted;  
21          correct?

22          A    Yes.

23          Q    And Mia and Matthew are not twins?

24          A    That's right.   They're three weeks apart.

25          Q    Yeah.

26          THE COURT:   Pardon me from interrupting you.   I  
27          hope not to do that at all but it's worth doing it

1 now while we'll be getting testimonial evidence. I  
2 will allow -- since you called the plaintiff in this  
3 matter I will allow each of you to examine  
4 Christopher and/or Karen Ambrose as if you called  
5 them as a witness so that you can examine them as if  
6 it's a direct, as well as a cross-examination so that  
7 we can eliminate maybe a lot of the objections --

8 ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: -- that I occasionally get. And  
10 that makes it a lot easier --

11 ATTY. ALDRICH: Yes.

12 THE COURT: -- for the two of you to present the  
13 evidence.

14 ATTY. ALDRICH: It does.

15 THE COURT: We'll put that on the record and  
16 we're clear about that.

17 ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Again, Attorney Callahan, forgive me  
19 for the interruption. You may continue, sir.

20 ATTY. CALLAHAN: That's fine.

21 Q And sir, do your children have special needs?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Okay. Each child?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. Let's start with Mia. What are her special  
26 needs?

27 A She's deaf in her right ear. She's dyslexia and

dysgraphia.

2 Q Okay. What -- tell the Court what dyslexia is.

3 A It's --

4 ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, Your Honor,  
5 relevance. I think that the Court can take judicial  
6 notice of dyslexia.

7 THE COURT: I'm sorry but I didn't hear the  
8 question.

9 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I said tell the Court what  
10 dyslexia is.

11 THE COURT: I don't need to know that.

12 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Okay.

13 THE COURT: I know what it is.

14 ATTY. CALLAHAN: And is Your Honor familiar with  
15 what dy -- what was the other?

16 THE WITNESS: Dysgraphia.

17 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Dysgraphia.

18 THE COURT: No, I'm not. But I really -- they  
19 have special needs and that's all I need to know for  
20 now. I may need to know more depending on how this  
21 goes but you can move along.

22 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Okay.

23 THE COURT: I'm more concerned about other  
24 issues that would be addressed in your motion for  
25 custody and parenting.

26 Q And Matthew, what are his special needs?

27 A He's ADHD and social anxiety.

ADHD  
inattentive  
type.  
Accommodations/strategies in place.  
Medication waited on due to concerns for growth.

1 Q And Sawyer?

2 A Sawyer, we think has ADHD as well. He's not  
3 currently being treated for it but that was the diagnosis we  
4 got. He doesn't have an auditory processing disorder which  
5 is what we were also worried about.

6 Q Okay. And prior to April of 2018, what did you do  
7 for work?

8 A I -- I still am a T.V. writer and producer.

9 Q Okay. Have you done any writing or producing since  
10 April of 2018 that has generated any income?

11 A No. Not -- other than residuals which I get from --  
12 from twenty years in the business. So not -- not anything  
13 recent. I haven't sold anything.

14 Q Okay. And so is it fair to say that prior to April  
15 of 2018 that Mrs. Ambrose was the primary care taker for the  
16 children and you worked outside of the home either in New  
17 York City or in California?

18 A No.

19 ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, relevance.

20 THE COURT: I'll allow it. The answer is no.

21 Next question.

22 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Okay

23 Q What was inaccurate about my statement then?

24 A I -- I've been home during that period. Since 2015  
25 I've been basically home. I -- I worked for one year  
26 commuting to Brooklyn every day, just like any commuting  
27 father would, but I was -- I was home and living in the

How he can say  
I wasn't the primary  
care giver  
speaks volumes.  
He was living across  
the country by  
choice.

Yes--he was home--  
and UNEMPLOYED.  
He took a job for  
real estate company  
(brief),  
but never mentions  
that. He then quit  
and took job on  
Instinct.

Chris started working on Instinct in May  
2017. He finished in December  
2017. He did not go into the city at all to  
work from Jan 2018 onward. He  
monopolized our home instead.

He wrote emails saying how he did not meet their needs emotionally, but now he does. This pattern he describes was true for the 2018-2019 school year. Beginning around November and then going full speed by January 2019. He was FORCING himself everywhere purely to meet his purposes--to prove 50-50 which had been his threat to me.

house, working from home and dealing with the kids just like Karen did. I did just as much, if not more than she did around the house like as far as taking care of the home; laundries -- laundry, groceries, cleaning the house. Made -- I made the lunches, the dinners. I eat dinner with the kids; she does not. So I -- I -- I also deal with them emotionally. It's just like Karen does; I tuck them in at night, I talk to them, I spend time with them. As far as since April of -- since the kids have been at the Country School I've driven them one way to school every day. She picks them -- she drives them usually in the morning. I pick up in the afternoon. I know more of their friends down there. We were at an event the last day of school of this year in June and Karen spent half the time saying who's that, who's that, who's that. She didn't know any of them because she drops them literally off in the morning. And when I come in the afternoon I get out of the car and wait for anyone to come out. I meet the parents that are waiting for his classmates. I talk to them. I talk to his classmates. Then when my older kids get out 20 minutes later, same drill; I talk to their parents. I know all the parents. I know my kids -- I know all the kids in sixth grade, which is what my two older ones are in. And the -- my little guy's in second. I know all of his friends. I know their parents. So I'm fully involved with that. I take the kids to lessons, to games, to practices. I do -- I do as much as Karen around all of that stuff. So I think I

**Chris insisted on the afternoon pick up so he could "work" in the morning. There is no time to meet anyone in the morning.**

1 This is a lie! Chris  
 2 was sleeping. Long gone were  
 3 any days of him writing early in the  
 4 morning. This was his excuse for  
 5 never going anywhere on the  
 6 weekends when we were first  
 7 married. Morning writing was  
 8 essential for Chris. It's all a lie.  
 9 There's an email where he's angry  
 10 bc he would have liked to sleep later  
 11 and I didn't inform him of a school  
 12 delay.

-- I think it's unfair to characterize. And in fact, if  
 one's a gender -- I -- I get up at 5 o'clock in the morning  
 to start writing when I work. I work until the kids get up  
 and then I would help get them ready for school. Even on  
 the mornings when Karen drives them I would get up -- I  
 would get up, I'd write for a little while and then when --  
 when the kids got up at like 6:30 I'd make the lunches and  
 their snacks and I'd pack them off and see them off to  
 school. And then -- and then on -- at the end of the day  
 too; I pick them up. I -- I was usually -- it took me a lot  
 longer to come home than it did Karen to drop them off and  
 just go because I had to wait for the older kids to get out  
 20 minutes after the youngest. And so I -- I'm very much a  
 part of their life, as much of a caregiving and the  
 homemaking to be sure, despite our genders, is absolutely  
 part of what I did. So I don't think it's fair to say that  
 she's -- she was more of a primary caretaker. She was not.

Q Well, isn't it true in 2015 you were living in New  
 Orleans?

A No.

ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, Your Honor.

A That's absolutely --

ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection.

A It's not true. I never lived in New Orleans.

ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection.

THE COURT: You know, it's my -- it's my fault  
 that I didn't instruct the witness and anyone else

15 He's a piece of  
 16 work with this  
 17 nonsense. He  
 18 doesn't even  
 19 know how to  
 20 give medicine or  
 21 how Mia's  
 22 hearing devices  
 23 work. He  
 24 doesn't know  
 25 the CI, the  
 26 CROSS, the  
 27 BAHA, The  
 ROger pen--  
 NONE Of them.  
 He doesn't know  
 how to set them  
 up or even  
 change a  
 battery. But he  
 acts like he's  
 done it all .

1           who's going to testify in this case, Mrs. Ambrose,  
2           especially you, that if -- if one attorney, either  
3           one, it doesn't matter, one attorney asks you a  
4           question and the other attorney -- the other attorney  
5           objects to the question, to the best of your ability  
6           do not answer the question --

7           THE WITNESS: Yeah.

8           THE COURT: -- unless I instruct you to do so  
9           and we'll get through this --

10          THE WITNESS: I apologize.

11          THE COURT: You don't have to apologize. I'm  
12          the one who's apologizing for not telling you that  
13          earlier. And I always tell the witnesses to keep  
14          their voices up. He's doing a pretty good job at it.

15          But at the time that you testify, Mrs. Ambrose,  
16          assuming I get to hear from you today. But again,  
17          please put the brakes on when there's an objection.

18          THE WITNESS: Sorry.

19          THE COURT: And, Counsel, I didn't really hear  
20          the question. You were looking down when you asked  
21          it.

22          ATTY. CALLAHAN: I apologize.

23          THE COURT: It didn't project over to me.

24          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Fair enough.

25          THE COURT: Even though the microphone is  
26          closer, I'm not.

27          ATTY. CALLAHAN: It's the first time somebody's

1 told me my voice is soft.

2 THE COURT: No, I didn't say your voice was  
3 soft. I said you were looking down.

4 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Okay.

5 Q I -- my question was, isn't it true, sir, in 2015 you  
6 were living in New Orleans?

7 A No, it is not true. I spent eight days there in New  
8 Orleans on a -- to produce an episode of NCIS New Orleans  
9 that I wrote. But other than that, I was living at home and  
10 I was doing -- as I did for two years because we had -- we  
11 had adopted Sawyer and I had just --

We adopted Sawyer in  
July 2010 and Chris  
returned 2 times  
between  
July 6 and Sept 7, 2010  
He remained in CA  
through 2013.

This was for the job he  
was accepting for six  
months--to pay for  
costs of needed  
construction on our  
home.  
But then we had  
construction done in  
2016.

12 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, I'm going to object  
13 because the question was pretty specific.

14 A Okay. No, I never lived in --

15 ATTY. ALDRICH: Wait.

16 A I did not live in New Orleans.

17 Q Okay. So and then the last -- the last series that  
18 you were writing for was Instinct; correct?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And where were you working out of for Instinct?

21 A Brooklyn.

22 Q Brooklyn? And for what period of time were you  
23 writing for Instinct?

24 A You mean month-wise? Is that what you're thinking?

25 Q What period of time? **May to December. Not one day of  
work on Instinct after December. Lies.**

26 A **Yeah. May to February.**

27 Q May of what year?

1 A 2017. Easter--Secrets and Lies. Austin and I watched it with him--- he  
2 Q Until? talked through the entire episode which was strange. Looking back  
3 A February of 2018, maybe March. he did so to prevent me from listening/hearing the show. I would  
4 Q Okay. And during that time period you were traveling have been familiar. I knew the story about the Amish and the  
5 back and forth to Brooklyn? piano prodigy. I would have absolutely recognized that.

6 A I was commuting to Brooklyn every day.  
7 Q What time would you wake up to go to Brooklyn?

8 A I would leave the house probably -- well, I used to  
9 try to take the 7:30 train.

10 Q Okay. And then what time would you return at night?

11 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, I'm going to object  
12 to this line of questioning. This is two years ago.

13 I don't see what the relevance is in terms of what  
14 we're talking about of parenting and now and with the  
15 children being in Rhode Island and not home.

16 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, it's very important  
17 for the Court to know who is the psychological parent  
18 to these children. I mean, while -- while -- while  
19 Mr. Ambrose is here testifying that he's been doing  
20 all of this from 2015, I can assure Your Honor that  
21 you're going to hear different testimony. And I  
22 think it's important for the Court to know what has  
23 been the schedule of these children for the recent  
24 past and then I'm going to get into some of the  
25 problems that they've been experiencing from 2018 to  
26 now. And I'll be asking Mr. Ambrose about that.

27 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor --

He'd be gone  
earlier than that.  
On many days  
the kids never  
saw him at all in  
the morning.

1 THE COURT: All right. When is -- when do --  
2 when do they go back to school? September what?

3 ATTY. ALDRICH: 3<sup>rd</sup>.

4 ATTY. CALLAHAN: September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

5 THE COURT: 3<sup>rd</sup>.

6 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, my objection stands  
7 based on the fact that first of all we're going to be  
8 here way longer than today. Today is about getting  
9 the children back to their marital home prior to  
10 school starting with their father. This -- these  
11 children have been taken in violation of the  
12 automatic orders. Their clothes, their things,  
13 everything's been taken. They need to be returned.  
14 What he did in 2015, what his hours were commuting  
15 three years ago, is not relevant to today's hearing,  
16 Your Honor. This is a fairly emergency -- emergent  
17 type hearing that requires orders for what's  
18 happening right now.

19 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, it's my motion.  
20 It's not counsel's motion. She can't turn my motion  
21 into what she wants it to be. I'm the one who filed  
22 it. There's no motion for contempt. There's no  
23 motion for an emergency hearing or expedited orders  
24 or any claim. And you're going to hear that my  
25 client didn't take the children with a violation of  
26 any order -- automatic order that says you cannot  
27 permanently remove the children from a state.

1           You'll hear testimony that the children have  
2           vacationed in Rhode Island summers past. They've  
3           gone with mom to her -- her parent's residence and  
4           her sister's residence. And this is nothing out of  
5           the ordinary for the children, except unbeknownst to  
6           them, dad filed the divorce just before her normal  
7           vacation with her children in August. They are  
8           coming back. There is no dispute that the state of  
9           Connecticut is their home state, is their residence.

10          There's no dispute that they're going back to the  
11          school that they attended last year in Madison.  
12          They've already signed the contract.

13          THE COURT: When are they coming back to  
14          Connecticut?

15          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Well, I would -- I would  
16          imagine it's probably going to be --

17          THE COURT: I would imagine.

18          ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- in the next --

19          THE COURT: You made a statement that they're  
20          coming back.

21          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes.

22          THE COURT: When are they -- talk to your client  
23          and let me have an answer please.

24          ATTY. CALLAHAN: So -- so, Your Honor, the --  
25          the problem that we've experienced is I've asked for  
26          access to the finances so that my client can get a  
27          rent. There is no desire -- as you can see one of

1 the orders -- one of the motions was a motion for  
2 exclusive possession. There is no desire to continue  
3 to live together. And so, you know, I -- I don't  
4 know if the -- we're going to receive money, marital  
5 monies, that allow my client to do that.

6 THE COURT: When are they coming back is my  
7 question, Counsel.

8 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I --

9 THE COURT: You made a statement they're coming  
10 back. When?

11 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, I'm going to object  
12 to --

13 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, my client is going  
14 to --

15 THE COURT: All right. The two ladies that are  
16 sitting immediately behind your client, please go  
17 back into the gallery. You're not permitted to speak  
18 --

19 UNKNOWN FEMALE VOICE: I apologize.

20 THE COURT: -- unless you're called as a  
21 witness. Thank you.

22 ATTY. CALLAHAN: The -- my client is going to  
23 secure a place to live. And so as soon as that  
24 happens, which will be before September 3<sup>rd</sup>, Your  
25 Honor.

26 THE COURT: Okay. Why don't you ask him -- I'm  
27 going to sustain the objection for now. What don't

1           you ask him questions related to the attendance at  
2           school, how the children went to Madison, who bore  
3           that responsibility and how long have they lived in  
4           the -- in the -- what is it, Westport --

5           THE WITNESS: Yes.

6           THE COURT: -- the residence?

7           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes.

8           THE COURT: How long have they lived in  
9           Westport?

10          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Sure.

11          THE COURT: That would help me a lot more than  
12          what happened two or three years ago.

13          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Okay.

14          THE COURT: For now, anyway.

15          Q    Mr. Ambrose, isn't it true that in September of 2018  
16          that both you and Mrs. Ambrose agreed that the children  
17          would attend school in Madison?

18          A    Yes.

19          Q    And was that not the result of a dispute that was had  
20          with the Westport school system as to how they were  
21          responding to the special needs of the children, in  
22          particular, Mia?

23          A    Yeah, I guess that's -- I guess that's fair.

24          Q    Okay.

25          A    Although Mia wasn't even attending a Westport school.  
26          She was attending a special school in Southport, Eagle Hill  
27          School in Southport, Connecticut.

1 Q But Westport would've been required to provide the  
2 special services?

3 A No. We didn't have that agreement with them. Nope.  
4 We had to pay for the school that they went to in Madison.

5 Q Okay. So --

6 A I don't understand your question if that's what --  
7 I'm not trying to be difficult, I just don't know what you  
8 mean.

9 Q That's fine. So in September of 2018 the two of you  
10 agreed to the school in Madison?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Okay. And was there not also discussion in September  
13 2018 that the two -- that the house would be sold and you  
14 would move closer to Madison so the children wouldn't have  
15 that one hour commute?

16 A We -- we talked about that among several different  
17 scenarios. I still need access to New York. It makes sense  
18 for my work to -- to have that kind of access easily.  
19 There's -- there are things I can do that will hopefully  
20 make that a little bit easier but that was one of the things  
21 we talked about. We hadn't made any decisions. We also  
22 talked about possibly moving closer to the City at one point  
23 to Westchester County. That was a discussion that we had  
24 too. But we -- we had landed on anything. We had no plan  
25 that we were working toward. I'd layed out options and wanted a plan since 2017  
26 Emails support my willingness to pursue options.

26 Q So you're telling the Court that in September in 2018  
27 you and your wife decided that you would -- well, withdrawn.

Yes--he did a lot of  
talking. It meant  
nothing. I thought  
we were moving to  
Pelham because of  
his job. But he was  
fired and never  
told me--or  
anyone.  
**If I did want to  
harm him, I  
would have  
shared the  
plagarism with  
my family. I  
never did.  
I didn't tell my  
father about it  
until august  
2019**

**HE had NO PLAN HE WAS WORKING TOWARD.**  
I'd layed out options and wanted a plan since 2017  
Emails support my willingness to pursue options.

1 How far of a drive is it from your residence to the Madison  
2 school?

3 A It's 47 miles. It takes about an hour, a little  
4 less.

5 Q Forty-seven miles?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And --

8 A I think that's right. I think it's 47. Yeah.

9 Q It probably takes longer in the morning with rush  
10 hour traffic?

11 A No, no. You're going against traffic in the morning.  
12 And I'm coming through New Haven with the kids on the way  
13 home. Because by the time I leave the school it's usually  
14 at least 4. When I get through New Haven it's like 4:30.  
15 So it's usually more traffic for me than -- than going to  
16 school because I'm coming with the traffic.

17 Q So it's about an hour drive on average?

18 A Approximately, yeah.

19 Q Okay. And if traffic is bad it can be beyond one  
20 hour; correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And so are you telling this Court that in September  
23 of 2018 that you and your wife did not have an agreement  
24 that you were going to move closer to Madison so that your  
25 children wouldn't have to endure over --

26 A We --

27 Q -- two -- two or more hours of driving --

- 1 A We talked -- **NON committal** Impossible to get a straight answer. He'd  
2 Q -- in a day? **been 'figuring things out' but hadn't 'landed on anything'**  
3 A We did talk about it. I'm saying we absolutely **as our children waited and for 3 years--had no idea of where**  
4 talked about it. It was a possibility. I -- I was looking **they'd attend school**  
5 at real estate. It's a hobby of mine. I was keeping up  
6 with the market and trying to figure stuff out. But we had  
7 not -- I'm just trying to say honestly we had absolutely  
8 talked about -- about it but we hadn't reached a decision.
- 9 Q Okay. **There's no "WE" ever. I was**  
10 A We hadn't concluded that. **open to many options and**  
11 Q But you would agree that it's in the best interest of **ready to move forward.**  
12 your children to have less of a drive, right?
- 13 A I think it is but that doesn't necessarily mean that  
14 they're in that school. That's all. They could -- they --  
15 we looked at another school because we were unsatisfied with  
16 the Country School. We looked at the Ridgefield Academy  
17 which is much closer to our house. And this -- we just  
18 looked at that in -- July, I guess --
- 19 Q So --  
20 A -- of this year.
- 21 Q So --  
22 A So we hadn't made that decision to move to Madison.
- 23 Q You --  
24 A And we were still open to relocating the kids into a  
25 different school.
- 26 Q You had your -- you had your wife served with this  
27 divorce complaint on July 19<sup>th</sup>; correct?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And on July 31<sup>st</sup> both you and your wife attended a  
3 meeting at the Madison school; correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Where there was discussions about what services the  
6 school would provide your children so that you both would  
7 agree that they're coming back the next year, this coming  
8 year; correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And at the end of that meeting you told the school  
11 that you were both satisfied with what they were proposing  
12 for your children and that they would be attending?

13 A No, that's not true. At the end of the --

14 Q Didn't you just recently send the school an email  
15 saying that you're going to get --

16 A You said at the end of that meeting. Karen and I  
17 talked briefly in the parking lot. We both agreed that it  
18 went really well. And we both encouraged and wanted to go  
19 back. We also were told that we could talk to a counselor  
20 that the school was going to be hired -- going to be hiring  
21 and working with us on some of these issues, but she wasn't  
22 back from vacation until August 12<sup>th</sup>. There were emails and  
23 texts that went back and forth between me and Karen. And  
24 Karen had said I added a stipulation. I said orally to  
25 Karen at one point, I believe, that I would commit to the  
26 Country School for this coming school year because I didn't  
27 want to disrupt the kids' lives anymore, especially with

1 what I knew was happening between us. So I didn't want to  
2 do that. So I would agree to do this year but I did not  
3 know financially or otherwise what we were going to do after  
4 that. And she wrote back to me saying that you added this  
5 stipulation, this is a new stipulation subsequent to the  
6 meeting and the dialogue that she and I had in the parking  
7 lot after that meeting. And she said you're changing  
8 things, and if you can't commit to me -- to me to saying  
9 you'll do two years for Mia and Matthew so they can go  
10 through seventh and eighth grade at the Country School and I  
11 don't know the finances then I'm not -- I'm not saying that  
12 I'll agree to keeping them in the Country School. She sent  
13 me -- I have that email too to show you that. And then  
14 subsequently I said, I was hoping you would call me tonight  
15 to talk about the Country School and she sent me something  
16 that says that I confirmed with the headmaster of the school  
17 that -- that the kids were going. I didn't do that. I can  
18 show you the text. I said -- what I said to Mr. Fixx was he  
19 sent a -- I responded to an email that he sent me and I said  
20 I was trying to reach Karen, we were both favorably  
21 impressed with the meeting, we were strongly encourage but I  
22 was trying to reach Karen. And I got an email back from his  
23 -- his thing automatically saying that -- that he was on  
24 vacation. And I -- I was still trying to reach Karen to  
25 find out if she was going to agree because she said unless  
26 you give me the financials I'm not -- and commit to two  
27 years, I'm not sure I can do that.

1           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Can I have that marked as an  
2 exhibit? Any objection?

3           ATTY. ALDRICH: No.

4           THE CLERK: Your Honor, Defendant's A as a full  
5 exhibit.

6           ATTY. CALLAHAN: I have a courtesy copy for Your  
7 Honor as a bench copy.

8           THE COURT: Thank you.

9           Q I'm going to show you --

10          A Thanks.

11          Q -- Defendant's Exhibit A. Isn't that an email that  
12 you just wrote this morning?

13          A Oh, yeah. But this is since -- you said right after.  
14 This is for one year. Yeah, for -- for today. I agreed to  
15 that. Once -- yes. Totally. And I sent her the check and  
16 I got the contracts like Karen did today in the mail. I  
17 mean in the -- an email. Yes. I agreed to do that now.  
18 But I -- I hadn't agreed when you were -- I thought you were  
19 trying to couch it that prior to this we had agreed to  
20 something informally and we hadn't.

21          ATTY. CALLAHAN: Can I have that marked as B  
22 please?

23          ATTY. ALDRICH: No objection. Your Honor, I  
24 think he's testified that they've agreed to a year.  
25 They signed a contract. We don't need to --

26          THE WITNESS: We didn't actually sign --

27          ATTY. ALDRICH: We have limited time.

1 THE WITNESS: -- yet. We will. Sorry.

2 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Actually, I can -- there's no  
3 objection but this is the Court's copy.

4 Q You say you didn't sign it?

5 **He knew we signed it. He's an attorney and he**  
6 **knows what he signed.**  
7 We didn't sign the one for this year. I don't think

7 THE COURT: Hold on a moment, please.

8 Q Why don't you -

9 THE COURT: The document which is --

10 ATTY. ALDRICH: Don't answer a question --

11 THE COURT: Hold on, sir.

12 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- when not asked.

13 THE COURT: The document that was submitted by  
14 Attorney Callahan which appears to be some kind of an  
15 agreement with the Country School out of Madison,  
16 Connecticut has been offered as a full exhibit. And  
17 I didn't hear you say no objection.

18 ATTY. ALDRICH: I said no objection to it going  
19 in. Objection to keeping on this topic because I'm  
20 worried about time, Your Honor. Because obviously  
21 they've agreed on one year. We -- I see the  
22 contract. I know it.

23 THE COURT: Full exhibit. Thank you.

24 ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you.

25 Q Do you have D in front of you?

26 A Yeah. I apologize. I -- she -- the same woman who I  
27 had sent the check to yesterday sent us new copies. She

1 said Beth Coyne (phonetic) asked me to enclose these copies  
2 for you. And I thought it was the -- I didn't even open it  
3 and I thought it was to sign the contracts. I forgot we did  
4 this in the spring. That's my fault. **Really Chris?**

5 Q She actually signed your -- sent you your signed  
6 contracts?

7 A I didn't realize that. I didn't open it. I thought  
8 they were the new contracts to sign because we had just  
9 committed to go to the school. I --

10 Q Actually, you committed and paid a deposit in April  
11 of -- **Chris NEVER forgets a penny. He knows this too.**

12 A But -- but --

13 Q -- 2019.

14 A But Mr. Fixx, the head of the school, because of the  
15 trouble we had during the spring agreed that he would let us  
16 out of this contract if Karen and I weren't comfortable with  
17 what they were planning to do going forward for the kids.  
18 And they didn't plan -- they didn't -- we didn't assess that  
19 until July 31<sup>st</sup>.

20 Q Okay. And when after July 31<sup>st</sup> did the two of you as  
21 parents agree that what they proposed was sufficient that  
22 you wouldn't back out of your contract?

23 A Well, it's kind of -- that's what I was seeing is we  
24 kind of task that we did -- Karen sort of leapfrogged some  
25 stuff. We -- we agreed, I thought, in the parking lot right  
26 after the meeting. That was my initial thing. And then we  
27 had subsequent dialogue to that. She took the kids on

**See stalking  
incident.**

1 August 2<sup>nd</sup>, so -- so communications were really strained.  
2 And subsequent to that, I had said something like I'm not --  
3 I can't commit to more than a year because I don't know  
4 financially going forward what we're going to be -- it's  
5 almost a hundred thousand dollars a year for the three  
6 tuitions. So I was not able to -- to say with certainty  
7 that I'd pay for two years.

8 Q Okay.

9 A That was it. And then we had email exchanges going  
10 back and forth. And she said you've added this wrinkle,  
11 unless I see the financial documents I don't want to commit  
12 to them going for two years -- for one year to a school if  
13 they're going to have to switch for the last year of middle  
14 school. And that's where we were. I sent some stuff back  
15 to her. And then she sort of ignored all those other ones  
16 and said you -- you promised Mr. Fixx, or you had agreed --  
17 you confirmed with Mr. Fixx and I -- I hadn't really done  
18 that. I was waiting to hear back from Karen because I  
19 didn't want to commit unless I had her say so. And then  
20 within the last couple of days this -- this stuff is kind of  
21 -- because communication's been really, really difficult,  
22 not only with Karen but with reaching my kids.

23 Q Okay. So let me -- you just said that Mrs. Ambrose  
24 at one point asked you for access to the financial accounts,  
25 your marital financial accounts, right?

26 A Uh-hum.

27 Q And she wanted that information to have an adult

He has NO reason  
not to trust me.  
He knew my mom!  
Our parents are  
friends, and he  
admits he has my  
inheritance, but  
refuses to give it  
to me now.

The disappearing  
never happened  
It's scary because  
it seems now he  
wants me to  
suddenly  
disappear and is  
leaving a  
papertrail to show  
a false history.

• See email to Bill  
Horn he recently  
provided.  
• Texts on  
Sawyer's ipad  
show I was in  
contact with the  
kids. Chris has the  
phone records that  
will PROVE I  
contacted the kids.

• My emails to  
Jami show I was  
with her and in  
contact in 2017  
• Emails and my  
sister and niece  
and nephews can  
show I was in  
contact with the  
children the entire  
time in 2018.  
I was gone for a  
total of 5 days.

Chris REFUSED to  
give me any time  
and I needed to  
be away from him.  
He was told I  
wanted a divorce.

Dr. Amiri knows as  
well.

conversation with you about what was possible for your  
children in the midst of this divorce --

A Uh-hum.

Q -- that you just started; correct?

A Uh-hum.

Q Yeah?

THE COURT: Yes?

THE WITNESS: Yes. I'm sorry. Yes.

Q And you didn't give it to her?

A I told her. I said what -- I said that it's the same  
as it was before. The mutual fund is the same as it was  
before. I was not going to give Karen the password to our  
investment portfolio.

Q Why?

A Because I don't trust her.

Q Okay. Even though you know that there is \$150,000 of  
money that she received from her mother's estate that you  
are in control of?

A And the rest of it is -- she has never had a problem  
with that. She never asked for access before. And I don't  
trust her to have access to it because if she has access --  
she's disappeared twice in the middle of the night for days  
at a time. When she left she wouldn't tell me where she was  
going and she wouldn't tell me where (sic) she was coming  
back; once in 2017 and once in 2018. Things have been  
really fraught between us. And when she started asking for  
the passwords to the Fidelity account it was the same kind

I have no idea  
 HOW to sell  
 stock. 1  
 All he's saying is  
 probably what  
 he's done over 3  
 time.  
 He has accounts 4  
 I have no idea  
 even existed. 5

of dynamic. And I was worried that Karen -- if I gave her  
 the passwords she could go in, she could sell stock, she  
 could deplete the whole thing, she could lock me out of the  
 account and disappear in the night, just like she had  
 before.

Q So you have control over that?

See--the whole--  
 disappear in the  
 night.  
 Give me a break. 8

A I -- I have -- well, control, as I have the entire  
 marriage and she's never asked once before this year to see  
 the accounts. He does see it as control. I never thought of it in that way.  
 But it's accurate. Horribly depressing but accurate.

Q But isn't when you start a divorce something a little  
 bit different --

A We had --

Q -- than all the other years?

A This was -- this was --

ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, Your Honor.

Objection. This is getting into the finances and I --  
 -- I didn't interrupt because I thought it was about  
 the Country School. I don't know that this is  
 relevant to today's proceeding.

ATTY. CALLAHAN: I think it's relevant, Your  
 Honor.

THE COURT: The objection's sustained. Next  
 question.

Q When you had started the action -- withdrawn. When  
 did you first contact Attorney Aldrich?

A I don't remember the date.

Q In 2019, 2018?

1 A 2019.

2 ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, Your Honor,  
3 relevance.

4 THE COURT: Sustained.

5 Q Did your wife ask you for some money to retain  
6 counsel?

7 A Yeah.

8 ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, Your Honor, relevance  
9 to today's proceeding. This is about getting the  
10 children back to this state which they haven't even  
11 able -- been able to commit to --

12 ATTY. CALLAHAN: It's -- it's --

13 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- even when asked several times  
14 by Your Honor.

15 ATTY. CALLAHAN: That's not true, Your Honor.  
16 And -- and it is very relevant because you know, Your  
17 Honor, they've had what a month and a half with him  
18 being able to pay his attorney to prepare for this  
19 hearing and here my client -- why -- why can't the  
20 Court hear that my client asked for a retainer.  
21 What's the next question? Did you give her money for  
22 a retainer to retain counsel?

23 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, this is not a  
24 financial hearing.

25 THE COURT: I need -- I don't really need to --  
26 in order to resolve the issue that's before the Court  
27 I don't need that evidence, Counsel.

1 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Okay, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 Q Are you objecting to your wife obtaining a separate  
4 residence from you?

5 A At this point, no.

6 Q Okay. Okay. Are you objecting that since you both  
7 have agreed that the children go to school in Madison that  
8 she have a residence somewhat closer to the school to reduce  
9 the drive for the children?

10 A I would like to have a residence closer to the school  
11 too.

12 Q That's not my question. Are you objecting to her  
13 securing a rent closer to the school to reduce the drive for  
14 your children?

15 A I don't think --

16 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, I -- I think this is  
17 again not a relevant question. If there -- he has no  
18 objection to her moving out of the house. The -- the

19 -- the issue we're here today is the parenting,  
20 getting the children back in the home and setting a  
21 parenting schedule. Where she lives is not of any

22 import to him. She can move to Hawaii for all he  
23 cares.

Is this a lawyer tactic? To be mean for the  
sake of it? ugh.

24 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Well, good.

25 ATTY. ALDRICH: It doesn't matter. But not with  
26 the children, Your Honor, which is what she's done  
27 now. She's picked up and moved the children to Rhode

I think he must have  
been going to do this  
because he was  
furious when I asked  
to go to Guilford. Plus  
he kept denying he  
was moving to  
Madison when my  
dad asked, but told  
his parents he was  
looking to move  
there. I have no idea,  
but I asked to rent  
close to the school  
the entire 2018-2019  
year and he refused.  
He wasn't working at  
all.

I never moved  
anywhere. Texts from  
August show I asked  
Chris to bring clothes  
for the boys bc they  
barely had any.

Island. This is why we're here today.

1  
2  
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27

ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, I'm going to keep objecting to that. As far as the relevance, it is relevant to where the parents are in comparison to their school. So that's certainly a relevant question and this Court needs to know the answer.

THE COURT: Well, I haven't heard the really relevant question and that's the drive from the current location of the children to the school in Madison.

ATTY. CALLAHAN: Oh, that's --

THE COURT: I haven't heard any --

ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- that's average an hour. I already asked --

THE COURT: -- testimony.

ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- that.

THE COURT: I didn't hear it. Would you ask him again please?

ATTY. CALLAHAN: Sure.

Q Isn't it true that from your home in Westport --

THE COURT: Not Westport.

ATTY. CALLAHAN: That's where they live.

THE COURT: They're in Rhode Island, I thought.

What --

ATTY. CALLAHAN: No.

THE COURT: What state are they in?

ATTY. CALLAHAN: They're on vacation in Rhode

1 Island. They're staying at their grandparent's house  
2 which they've done before. They're not going to be  
3 in Rhode Island, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Okay. So Rhode Island is not  
5 the location where the children will be living when  
6 school begins on September 3<sup>rd</sup>?

7 ATTY. CALLAHAN: No.

8 THE COURT: Okay.

9 ATTY. CALLAHAN: No.

10 THE COURT: All right. I -- I --

11 ATTY. CALLAHAN: That's why I'm asking.

12 THE COURT: I misread -- I misread what you --  
13 what you were claiming here.

14 ATTY. CALLAHAN: No.

15 Q Do you object here to your wife securing a rent in a  
16 different -- in a town that's closer to Madison to reduce  
17 the drive for your children?

18 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, my objection stands.  
19 What his opinion is about where she lives is not for  
20 this Court today. We need a parenting plan and  
21 parenting access to the children. Where she goes is  
22 not -- is not --

23 THE COURT: You don't have any objection to the  
24 kids living somewhere closer to the school, do you?  
25 Yes or no?

26 THE WITNESS: No.

27 THE COURT: All right.

1           ATTY. ALDRICH: Wait. Hold on, Your Honor. Is  
2 the question the kids or the wife?

3           THE WITNESS: Right.

4           THE COURT: The kids.

5           ATTY. ALDRICH: His question was the wife. Yes,  
6 he has an objection to the kids because it's about  
7 the wife. So that was the question he asked.

8           THE WITNESS: Right.

9           ATTY. ALDRICH: Do you have an objection to the  
10 wife moving --

11          THE COURT: All right.

12          ATTY. ALDRICH: -- somewhere?

13          THE COURT: Okay.

14          ATTY. ALDRICH: That's a totally different  
15 question.

16          THE COURT: Let's -- let's try to focus the  
17 inquiry on the children.

18          ATTY. ALDRICH: Correct. Thank you, Your Honor.

19          THE COURT: Please.

20          ATTY. CALLAHAN: But the Court needs to know  
21 where my client's living so --

22          THE COURT: I need to know a lot more than I'm  
23 going to hear today, Counsel.

24          ATTY. CALLAHAN: I understand.

25          THE COURT: And you're not going to be given the  
26 opportunity to be fully heard because of the passage  
27 of time. I can't control the passage of time.

1           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Thank you.

2           THE COURT: I don't want to control the passage  
3 of time. All right? So the question is about the  
4 children please.

5           ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes, Your Honor.

6           ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, just for the record,  
7 I'd like to -- because this is a very short day and I  
8 know we'll continue another day for other matters but  
9 I would like to be given some amount of time to be  
10 able to direct my client. So I don't know if you're  
11 going to be able to accommodate that or not.

12          THE COURT: Are you done with your examination?

13          ATTY. CALLAHAN: No, Your Honor.

14          THE COURT: All right.

15          ATTY. CALLAHAN: I gave you a copy of this  
16 already. Any objection?

17          THE COURT: You've handed the clerk something.  
18 I presume that Attorney Aldrich has a copy. And he's  
19 offering it as a full exhibit, Attorney Aldrich.

20          ATTY. ALDRICH: I see the exhibit. I'm  
21 objecting, Your Honor. Yes.

22          THE COURT: Okay. Lay a foundation. Mark it  
23 for identification please.

24          THE CLERK: Your Honor, Defendant C for I.D.

25          Q Mr. Ambrose --

26          A Uh-hum.

27          Q -- I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit C

1 for identification. Do you recognize that?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Is that an email that you wrote on April 6<sup>th</sup> of 2019

4 --

5 A Yes.

6 Q -- of this year?

7 A Uh-hum.

8 Q And is it an email where you describe the

9 relationship and difficulties that you've been having with  
10 your children?

11 A Yes.

He had to provide me with this information AFTER he had spun--I'm sure with great detail--all of these incidents without me or the children present. Alison K then asked him to provide me with what she shared--and upon which she based her conclusions without talking to me or the children about what Chris had suggested

12 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I'm offering it.

13 ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, Your Honor. This --

14 THE COURT: Well, who's it addressed to first of  
15 all? I didn't hear that.

16 ATTY. ALDRICH: I beg your pardon?

17 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Who -- certainly.

18 Q And who did you address the email to?

19 A To my wife.

20 Q Okay. And it was actually presented to a therapist  
21 as well, was it not?

It was the foundation of what he spun to Alison Kravitz! She then told him to provide me with it ONLY AFTER I ASKED.

22 A I don't recall presenting it to a therapist.

23 Q Okay. But you presented this to --

24 A My wife presented it to other people. She sent it to  
25 the neighbor but I didn't present it to anybody.

26 THE COURT: All right. The document is  
27 something you sent to your wife?

1 THE WITNESS: Yes.

2 THE COURT: All right. And you know she  
3 received it?

4 THE WITNESS: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Okay. And what's your objection?

6 ATTY. ALDRICH: My objection, Your Honor -- may  
7 I voir dire?

8 THE COURT: Yes, you may.

9 ATTY. ALDRICH: Okay.

10 THE COURT: Absolutely.

11 **VOIR DIRE BY ATTORNEY ALDRICH:**

12 Q Mr. Ambrose, was this email written to your wife?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And what was the purpose of this email?

15 A I was desperate to get our kids into therapy. I feel

16 like Karen has taken them and turned them against me in a

17 lot of ways. The therapist that my kids were seeing at the

18 point in which I sent her this email had told us once --

19 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Objection with regard to what  
20 therapist is saying, Your Honor.

21 ATTY. ALDRICH: Okay, Your Honor, I'll -- I'll --

22 -

23 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I mean, I can --

24 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- streamline the question.

25 Q Mr. Ambrose, has -- this was in an effort to get  
26 therapy, is that correct?

27 A Yes.

Our kids WERE NOT  
SEEING A THERAPIST!

Matthew saw Bill  
Horn, but Chris took  
that over, and  
ultimately, even  
though I expressed  
my concerns, Chris  
continued to use Bill's  
name punitively.  
Matthew said nothing  
had changed and  
nothing had. The  
name-calling,  
mimicking etc. had  
gone on--

Mia saw Alison Kravitz  
ONE TIME--and then  
chris undermined and  
tainted that contact.  
He will NOT provide  
phone records and  
ALison Kravitz refuses  
to provide phone calls  
with regard to Mia or  
any contact with  
myself or Chris.

It was a completely  
calculated effort on  
Chris's part to prevent  
any information being  
shared.

Kids NOT SEEING  
THERAPIST!

1 Q Okay. And this was also sent to the therapist, is  
2 that correct?

3 A I talked to the therapist about --

4 Q About these things?

5 A I didn't send it to --

6 Q Okay. And these incidents, did it -- did it -- as of  
7 April 6<sup>th</sup>, were you able to get the children in therapy as a  
8 result of this email?

9 A No.

10 Q And last question. Is -- are any of these things  
11 happening since -- in -- in the recent -- the last few  
12 months with your children?

13 A No. And I'm really proud of that.

He's proud of that?  
So it stopped but I'm the  
one who caused it in the  
first place? It makes no  
sense bc it's not true.

14 ATTY. ALDRICH: Objection, Your Honor, then  
15 relevance based on this is not what's happening right  
16 now in the case. This was something in order for --  
17 to elucidate what was happening for therapy purposes.

18 And we're here today based on what is going on with  
19 the children now.

20 THE COURT: All right. Any further argument,  
21 Counsel, on the offer?

22 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yes, Your Honor. I think that  
23 you're going to hear it differently as to whether  
24 these things are still continuing and whether the  
25 children are reacting today as a way he describes in  
26 this -- in this email. And so it -- it's certainly  
27 subject to the weight the Court wants to accord to it

According  
to Chris,  
HE  
CHANGED  
HIS  
behavior  
and the  
'incidents'  
STOPPED.

1 at the end of the hearing but it's -- the objection  
2 should be overruled.

3 THE COURT: All right. I -- I should note in  
4 ruling on the objection that I've already granted a  
5 motion for therapy and instructed parties to select a

Chris says he wanted therapy so badly, but he NEVER ONCE asked to have the kids in therapy until I brought Mia and Alison said she was 'emotionally unsafe' with Chris.

8 Prior to this, there is NO EVIDENCE to indicate Chris wanted the kids in therapy. It was all contrived. And he only wanted Bill or Alison which is absurd given the history.

6 therapist of their mutual satisfaction by September  
7 5<sup>th</sup>. So I don't want to really get into that area,  
8 whatever happened. I'll allow it to remain as an  
9 I.D. exhibit and we'll move along. So the  
10 objection's sustained without prejudice right now.

11 Next question.

12 ATTY. CALLAHAN: May I be heard, Your Honor?

13 THE COURT: I already heard you.

14 ATTY. CALLAHAN: As to what the subject matter  
15 of this is.

16 THE COURT: Counsel, I've already heard you.  
17 I've already ruled. Let's move on to the next

18 question please. And physically, I believe Mr.

19 Ambrose has the document. It should be returned to  
20 the clerk's custody.

21 THE WITNESS: Sure.

22 THE COURT: And I instruct counsel to return  
23 them to the custody of the clerk --

24 THE WITNESS: I have two more.

25 THE COURT: -- when you finish examining a  
26 witness with an exhibit, whether it's a full exhibit  
27 or an exhibit for identification.

I submitted the names of two counselors through my attorney IMMEDIATELY> Chris did not.

Nothing happened. Then the GAL came along and wanted a family therapist--I was concerned and said as much because historically, the children shared information and Chris would appear receptive, and say the right things, but then use it against the children at home. He's punitive.

This should be entered in the court record. He used these incidents and provided them to Alison Kravitz, who the GAL presented as our 'family therapist' along with Bill Horn---they are not family therapists.

1 **DIRECT EXAMINATION CONTINUED BY ATTORNEY CALLAHAN:**

2 Q Mr. Ambrose, you filed a motion for therapy. Right?

3 In July. Right?

4 A Yes.

5 Q That email is in April of 2019. You file a motion  
6 for therapy in July of 2019; correct?

7 A Yes. Alison doesn't see Mia, but is providing counsel to Chris based on what? He  
8 now has taken over Bill Horn, Matthew's former therapist, and Alison Kravitz,  
9 as his personal therapists. Without any information shared with me.

10 Q And you're telling this Court that the behaviors that  
11 you described your children exhibiting towards you in April  
12 of 2019 stopped after April of 2019? Alison was Mia's therapist during 4th grade.  
13 She saw her one time since July 2017.

14 A Those particular behaviors stopped, yes. I worked

15 really hard with my therapist and with my daughter's  
16 therapist calling her on the phone, even though Karen  
17 wouldn't permit her to see her therapist any longer, who

18 gave me strategies about how to do with it. And that was an

19 ongoing process. It started in -- around Christmas and it  
20 worked all the way through the winter. And I -- I'm really

21 proud that -- to say that they had a -- Karen didn't believe

22 any of those incidents that I wrote. I have an email from

23 her saying I don't -- how come these things never happen in

24 front of me. She didn't believe anything I wrote there. I

25 overheard her talking to my neighbor in the morning, the

26 morning of April 6<sup>th</sup> --

Chris made up a sheet of LIES. NOTHING is valid.  
Ask anyone of my friends or colleagues or Stacy.

27 ATTY. ALDRICH: I'm going to call -- I'm going

to --

THE WITNESS: Sorry.

ATTY. ALDRICH: -- streamline my client just

Mia had seen  
AK for 1.5hrs  
AK refuses to  
give phone  
call logs and  
records

Mia didn't see AK  
until Jan 23rd.  
AK said she was  
emotionally  
unsafe with Chris

He monitors  
everything no  
privacy allowed  
He was hiding on  
the basement  
stairs

But no one will allow  
me to see phone  
records. Alison 'doesn't  
keep phone logs on  
children'--refer to  
audio voicemail  
message.

Another lie!  
Mia saw  
Alison on  
1/23/19 and  
one other  
date as a  
"follow-up"  
that Alison  
requested. I  
don't know  
what date,  
but seen  
twice.

1           because --

2           THE WITNESS: Sorry.

3           ATTY. ALDRICH: -- for timing purposes, Your  
4 Honor.

5           THE WITNESS: I tend to go on. Sorry about  
6 that.

He's told the kids directly  
that they're abusive and  
they have 'assaulted' him.  
The kids say it on  
a recording where he  
continues to deny it.  
When each responds with  
the same/similar  
information, Chris then  
shuts it down.

7           Q    And so since April of 2019 you have not sent any text  
8 messages or emails to any other person indicating that the  
9 children have been abusive towards you?

10          A    I don't couch -- I don't characterize their conduct  
11 toward --

12          Q    It's a yes or no, sir.

13          A    No. I -- I -- the way you're characterizing it makes  
14 me say no because I don't think it's abusive. Has -- have --  
15 -- have some of those behaviors manifested upon occasion?  
16 Yes.

17          Q    And so they're still happening?

18          A    But -- but not with the frequency and not with the  
19 intensity that they've happened. So it's a big difference.

20          Q    Okay. And so --

21          A    Huge difference in my mind. But --

22          Q    So you --

23          A    -- yes.

24          Q    -- wouldn't characterize the behavior of your  
25 children towards you as abusive?

26          A    No.

27          Q    What would you characterize it as?

**They're frustrated and acting out so how is that parental alienation? And after he learned strategies it stopped. Supports that it's his behavior that they respond to.**

1           A    They're -- they're children and they're acting out.  
2           They're frustrated.  And that's how they -- they expressed  
3           it.  But I don't consider it abusive.  Abuse to me means  
4           you're a victim in some way.  I'm clearly much bigger than  
5           them.  It's upsetting emotionally to me that it happens.  
6           But I didn't feel abused by my kids.

7           Q    Okay.  And -- and when these things happen, have you  
8           resorted to name calling for --

9                    ATTY. ALDRICH:  Objection, Your Honor.

10          Q    -- at your children?

11                   ATTY. ALDRICH:  Now we're going into evidence  
12           that's beyond the scope of this process.  This is not  
13           about what he's done.  This is about what the -- the  
14           -- what's happening right now with the children.

15                   ATTY. CALLAHAN:  Your Honor, the law is pretty  
16           clear.  There are statutory considerations that this  
17           Court must consider in setting any parenting plan,  
18           whether it's PL or final.  It's the same statute.  
19           Somehow I'm being restricted in the amount of  
20           evidence that I can present to this Court as to  
21           what's in the best interest of this kids -- these  
22           children right now as if it's somehow different than  
23           what we will do as a Court, what we will do for a  
24           final order.  It's still an order.  It's an order  
25           that has an impact on the children right now and it's  
26           going to have some finality, at least during the PL  
27           stage.  So the statute doesn't say oh, I can only

1 present a certain limited amount of evidence on the  
 2 statutory criteria that the Supreme Court says that  
 3 you have to consider.

4 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, this is not a full -  
 5 - we have agreed on a GAL. We've agreed on a  
 6 therapist. We agreed on a Family Relations study.  
 7 This hearing is about bringing the children back from  
 8 out of state where they are residing and there's no  
 9 set time for them to come home. They're being kept  
 10 away from their father. They can move back into the  
 11 marital home and then a GAL can work with them and a  
 12 therapist about an appropriate parenting plan. They  
 13 need to be back in the home. That's what this  
 14 hearing is about. It's not about what's a long term  
 15 process or what kind of -- you know, are we having --  
 16 a two, two, five, which Monday, Wednesday or Thursday  
 17 that each parent is having. That's not what this  
 18 hearing is about. Your Honor can't decide that in a  
 19 fifteen minute hearing.

20 And now I don't have the ability to cross-  
 21 examine my -- to direct my client. And I just want  
 22 to request the Court right before 5 since I'm not  
 23 going to have the opportunity to do this that the  
 24 children return home. They have been taken without  
 25 his consent and kept and he doesn't even know where  
 26 they are. They haven't been communicating with him.  
 27 She took their phones from them. This is not

The phones were replaced  
 and put on a new phone  
 plan in my name. WPS  
 determined GPS was turned  
 on and could not be 'swiped  
 off' They called Verizon and  
 I went over before it closed.  
 The children were in contact  
 with Chris and Chris also has  
 my sister's and my father's  
 home phone.  
 He also texted he hadn't  
 spoken to Sawyer when he  
 had. It's all confirmed

Chris knew  
 exactly where  
 they were.  
 We stay at  
 my sister's  
 and my  
 dad's. Chris  
 has also been  
 to RI to see  
 the kids!

He physically pushed past Joani, my dad's wife and walked right upstairs. This was intended to intimidate. He's aggressive and Joani was surprised to experience it.

1 appropriate behavior during a pendente lite process.

2 This is a violation of the automatic orders. I  
3 didn't file a violation because I didn't know she  
4 wasn't bringing them back until recently when she  
5 said in an email she's not bringing them back.

6 So I want the Court to make an order that the  
7 children be returned home. We go through the  
8 process. We have two weeks each of us to hand in our  
9 decisions for GAL and a therapist, which I think we  
10 should be able to do. I'll talk with Attorney  
11 Callahan today as we leave the court to set something  
12 up. I'm not in any position to delay this. I -- but

13 I want the children home in their marital home. They  
14 don't know what's going on. This process is very

15 confusing to them. They've been told way too much.

16 And they're now being put in a position where they're  
17 placed in an out of state away from both parents and

18 -- and their entire family because as you can see

19 they're all here right now. So I don't think this is

20 appropriate behavior.

21 ATTY. CALLAHAN: There's nothing -- there's  
22 nothing out of the ordinary for these children right  
23 now, Your Honor. Let me ask a question.

24 Q Mr. Ambrose, 2018, summer of 2018, did the children  
25 go spend nearly a month in Rhode Island?

26 A Against my consent. Yup.

27 Q Oh, against your consent?

TOTAL LIE! There is NOT ONE SHRED of an email or text anywhere, that would support this BS claim. He came when he wanted to and left when he wanted to. My aunts apt. wasn't good enough for him. He told the kids it was a "little old lady apartment" No appreciation and no values.

The ONLY family I had at court that day was my father. Everyone else was in RI with our kids. They love it in RI and would live there in a heartbeat. Chris is the one that doesn't, and often puts it down to the children which is a shame.

1 A She -- she took them. I was able to see them on  
2 weekends if I went up there. She was estranged from her  
3 father. We usually stay at Bob's house for a week. That --

There was NO REASON to  
stay at my father's who was  
within 2 miles, when we  
could stay at my aunts for  
the month. My father offered  
for us to go there. He's lying.

4 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Your Honor, I'm going to move  
5 to strike. We will not finish this hearing in 5  
6 days. My question was very simple. Did the children  
7 stay in Rhode Island --

8 ATTY. ALDRICH: Asked and answered.

9 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Yeah. It was yes.

10 Q How about 2017, did they --

11 ATTY. ALDRICH: Your Honor, relevance. This is  
12 the middle of a divorce case. You're not allowed to  
13 take the children without the consent of the other  
14 parent.

15 ATTY. CALLAHAN: That's not true.

16 ATTY. ALDRICH: That's divorce 101.

17 ATTY. CALLAHAN: No, it's not. There's a court  
18 order. Your Honor, the automatic order says that you  
19 cannot permanently remove a child from the state of  
20 Connecticut. It doesn't say you cannot go on the  
21 ordinary vacations that you've been doing for years  
22 past.

23 ATTY. ALDRICH: And keep the children --

24 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Because the other --

25 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- three, four --

26 ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- the other parent --

27 ATTY. ALDRICH: -- weeks away from the other --

1 parent.

2 ATTY. CALLAHAN: -- objects.

3 THE COURT: You're both speaking at the same  
4 time.

5 ATTY. ALDRICH: Sorry, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Please finish, Attorney Callahan.

7 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I had a question pending, I  
8 believe, that was objected to. I don't recall what  
9 it was, Your Honor. We may --

10 THE COURT: Then why don't you ask another one.

11 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Since I forgot the question I  
12 asked, can I --

13 THE COURT: Well, let me ask a question. What  
14 is your understanding, Mr. Ambrose, of the agreement  
15 regarding the one month that the children spend in  
16 Rhode Island this year? What is your understanding?

17 THE WITNESS: This year, you mean?

18 THE COURT: This is 2019.

19 THE WITNESS: Right.

20 THE COURT: They had a month, 2019, just as  
21 they've had in previous years.

22 THE WITNESS: No. The only other time they  
23 spent a month together --

24 ATTY. ALDRICH: Listen to his question.

25 THE COURT: Let me go back to my question.

26 ATTY. ALDRICH: The answer was --

27 THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry.

1           ATTY. ALDRICH: -- '19, was there an agreement  
2 that they had three weeks?

3           THE WITNESS: No. No. She -- Karen said she'd  
4 return the children --

5           THE COURT: All right. Just a moment. Calm  
6 down.

7           THE WITNESS: All right. All right.

8           THE COURT: My question to you is this. What is  
9 your understanding of when the children were supposed  
10 to come back to -- to the marital residence in  
11 Westport from Rhode Island?

12           THE WITNESS: Sunday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, I believe it  
13 was. Two days -- three days ago.

14           ATTY. ALDRICH: Chris -- excuse me, Your Honor -  
15 - do you understand when they left? August 2<sup>nd</sup>?

16           THE WITNESS: Second. They left August 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
17 She told me in -- originally they were supposed to be  
18 gone a week.

19           ATTY. ALDRICH: Okay. Well, that's what the  
20 judge wants --

21           THE WITNESS: But that was original --

22           ATTY. ALDRICH: -- to know.

23           THE WITNESS: Sorry. Originally, that was it.  
24 And then she extended that and she wrote in an email  
25 that she would bring them back on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and -- and  
26 I was like, it's an extra week but then I was like I  
27 didn't want to upset the kids. I didn't want to -- I

1 wanted to try to work with Karen. I wanted to try to  
2 make this as peaceful as possible. So I was going to  
3 let the second -- them have the second full week up  
4 there. And then on the 22<sup>nd</sup> she didn't return them.

5 She said she'd return them the next day, Monday.  
6 She waited until the very end of the day and then  
7 there was a thunder storm so she couldn't drive. She  
8 brought them back Tuesday but she only brought two of  
9 them back and she only brought them back to go to the  
10 orthodontist. She didn't bring my youngest back at  
11 all. And the other two didn't have their things with  
12 them. She took -- she took them to the orthodontist.

13 She permitted me to take them to dinner and to the  
14 mall. And then when we came back before I was even  
15 out of the car she called -- and she had her car  
16 parked facing out of our -- we live on a little lane  
17 and she had her car facing down the hill. She called  
18 the kids over and got them in the car and bolted.  
19 They didn't even say goodbye to me. I had still had  
20 my son's leftover Chinese food in the car.

21 THE COURT: All right. Let me ask you to step  
22 down. You're not going to conclude your examination  
23 today, Attorney Callahan. And I'm probably going to  
24 get in trouble with the Case Flow. But because I've  
25 been told that the next available date for this  
26 hearing to be scheduled is September 24<sup>th</sup> what I will  
27 allow counsel to do, rather than continuing it to the

1 next available date of September 24<sup>th</sup>, is to be back  
2 here tomorrow morning at 9:30 with your clients. And  
3 I only need to hear from mom and dad. If there's not  
4 -- if that's a problem then we'll see you on  
5 September 24<sup>th</sup>.

6 ATTY. CALLAHAN: I am scheduled for the last  
7 month and a half for a hearing before Judge Klau in  
8 New Haven that starts at 9:30 involving four other  
9 lawyers, people were subpoenaed from coming -- my  
10 understanding is from Bethel, from all over. And  
11 that starts tomorrow morning, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: You're in the middle of a trial  
13 today in this court and other -- other files in this  
14 court does not permit you to be excused. If I have  
15 to call the Judge Klau that you're talking about I  
16 will do so because you're in the middle of a trial  
17 today. The only thing that trumps the trial today is  
18 something of a personal nature involving you or your  
19 family and the same with other counsel.

20 So I can --

21 ATTY. CALLAHAN: You'll have to call. But I  
22 will notify counsel.

23 THE COURT: I will. I will. You can call  
24 brother counsel and let them know you've been ordered  
25 to be here tomorrow morning at 9:30. The only thing  
26 -- the only two witnesses I will hear from, the  
27 conclusion of Mr. Ambrose's testimony and whatever

1 testimony you wish to offer from Mrs. Ambrose and  
2 that's it for purposes of giving you a ruling on the  
3 motion that's before the court which we've already  
4 identified as -- god bless you -- pendente --

5 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Bless you.

6 THE COURT: -- custody and -- and parenting  
7 plan. So having said that -- and I'm going to limit  
8 you, by the way, I have to do that because I have --  
9 I have other cases scheduled for tomorrow which is  
10 why they told me I couldn't schedule it for tomorrow.

11 But I'd like to give the parties a ruling on the  
12 motion, if I can --

13 ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you.

14 THE COURT: -- by giving them both the  
15 opportunity to be fully heard tomorrow. That's the  
16 best shot I can give you.

17 ATTY. CALLAHAN: As long as Your Honor's telling  
18 me you're going to call Judge Klau then I'm here  
19 tomorrow morning.

20 THE COURT: I will call Judge Klau tomorrow  
21 morning while we're having an espresso, how's that?

22 ATTY. CALLAHAN: That's fine.

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 ATTY. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: You're welcome.

26 ATTY. ALDRICH: Judge, would you like 9 o'clock  
27 or 9:30?

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THE COURT: No, 9:30.

ATTY. ALDRICH: 9:30. That's fine, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right.

ATTY. ALDRICH: Thank you.

THE COURT: We'll -- you're welcome.

(WHEREUPON, this matter concluded).

UNCERTIFIED COPY

NO: FBT-FA19-6088163S : SUPERIOR COURT  
CHRISTOPHER AMBROSE : JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
OF FAIRFIELD  
v. : AT BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT  
KAREN AMBROSE : AUGUST 22, 2019

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I hereby certify the foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription of the audio recording of the above-referenced case, heard in Superior Court, Judicial District of Fairfield, Bridgeport, Connecticut, before the Honorable Eddie Rodriguez, Jr., Judge, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2019.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019 in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

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Jennifer Ocasio  
Court Recording Monitor