

FATHERS
Fathers Asking To Have Equal Rights
www.kyfathers.org
1673 Hamburg Rd., Kevil, KY 42053

August 21, 2007

To:

U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell
361 A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Edward Whitfield
United States House of Representatives
2411 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-170

Governor Ernie Fletcher
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, KY 40601

Office of the Attorney General
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118
Frankfort, KY 40601-3449

Kentucky General Assembly
Capitol Annex
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601

Re: The chronic failure of the Paducah Office of Cabinet for Families and Children, Protective Services case worker Shannon Bowers, and her immediate supervisor, Bridgett Maxey, to provide adequate and reasonable protection to the children of Roger Choate: Matthew Choate, age 10
BreeOnna Choate, age 8

My fellow Kentuckians,

What follows is the initial complaint regarding the serious, and appalling failure of our great state to protect two of our youngest and most vulnerable citizens, Matthew Choate, age 10, and his sister, BreeOnna Choate age 8. **This complaint is being filed with haste because the father's attempts to utilize the existing state agencies and procedures are actually preventing him from protecting his children. He fears once returned to the abusive mother she will flee the state placing them beyond any reasonable ability for Mr. Choate to provide any measure of protection for them.**

Attached are sworn affidavits, and statements, most from the mother's own family, documenting this child abuse, along with my account of an interview I was allowed to attend with Mr. Choate.

FATHERS is asking for your immediate intervention into this matter to insure the safety of Matthew and BreeOnna Choate.

FATHERS is also asking for an independent investigation to determine the breakdown of one of the State of Kentucky's most important responsibilities, the protection of our children.

On August 17, 2007, at 1:30, Mike East accompanied Mr. Choate to the interview with Protective Services regarding the EPO filed on behalf of the children against the mother, Lisa Russian. Mr. East had previously called and spoke with Shannon Bowers' immediate supervisor, Bridgett Maxey, requesting Shannon Bowers be replaced with another case worker. Mr. East requested this change because of the obvious prejudice Shannon Bowers had exhibited in the past toward Mr. Choate. Mr. Choate had stated that Shannon Bowers had called him a drunk and a liar. This prejudice was also acknowledged by Gail Evans-Lisa Russian's mother, Rebecca Evans-Lisa Russian's sister, Wendell Green-Lisa Russian's grandfather, and Sharon Green-Lisa Russian's grandmother, who all accompanied Mr. Choate and Mike East to the interview on August 17 with case worker Shannon Bowers to report the mother's abuse against both Matthew and BreeOnna. **These four witness to the mother's abusive behavior are all related to her, not the father, yet they all took time out of their busy schedules to accompany Mr. Choate to Protective Services August 17th in order to protect the children.**

Upon arriving at Family and Protective Services for the interview, Mr. East spoke with supervisor Bridgett Maxey, again requesting an interview with someone other than the biased Shannon Bowers. Supervisor Maxey absolutely, and with very stern demeanor, refused to even acknowledge the possibility that Shannon Bowers could be even slightly biased against Roger Choate. Supervisor Maxey also stated that there were absolutely no provisions in her department for requesting a change of case worker, or interviewer. **(Supervisor Maxey's interpretation of this policy insures that any case worker biased, or prejudiced against a father or parent, will remain tainting that case indefinitely without any serious outside or internal checks or balances.)**

Mr. East requested to accompany Mr. Choate into the interview held before Shannon Bowers and was allowed to do so.

During the interview Shannon Bowers stated that she had interviewed the mother's boyfriend, Charles West, who had called police and reported the mother striking BreeOnna the daughter, and driving recklessly under the influence of Loritabs. The officer that interviewed BreeOnna was Deputy Mark Vallelunga

During the interview Shannon Bowers refused to acknowledge any history of child abuse, or inappropriate behavior by the mother, even refusing to admit that the children

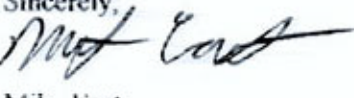
had ever been struck by the mother. Shannon Bowers refused to even listen to the four witnesses waiting in the lobby. All four witnesses had stated that they had contacted Shannon Bowers and her supervisor Bridgett Maxey numerous times reporting the child abuse, and that both Shannon Bowers and Bridgett Maxey had refused to take them seriously. (All four of these witnesses are related to the mother, and came to insure the children were protected.)

Barbra Dawn Kelley and Joy Tabers have signed affidavits stating the child abuse. (affidavits attached) Shannon Bowers stated that she would not listen to them because their testimony did not fit into the criteria she determined was relative to this hearing. Shannon Bowers stated that since they had contacted Protective Services previously and reported the child abuse, and that since Protective Services had determined their complaints did not warrant an in depth investigation and had been dismissed, that their testimony regarding this child abuse was inadmissible from that time forward. Mr. East did insist that Protective Services listen to the mother's families' complaints against the mother regarding the child abuse, and an appointment was made the following Tuesday with Bridgett Maxey.

During the August 17th interview Shannon Bowers stated that the children were very sweet, and had no anger problems. **(Matthew had fought with the police refusing to be returned to the mother, and had to be restrained by the police.)** Shannon Bowers indicated this was somehow the fathers responsibility, and indicated the father was manipulating Matthew into this type of behavior, and indicated there was no documented history of any type of abuse by the mother. **Mr. East stated there were four witnesses in the lobby that would testify to the mothers abuse, and that they were the mother's own family. Shannon Bowers refused to listen to any of them at this time.** Wendell Green, the mother's grandfather, one of the witnesses in the lobby, has had to break up brawls between the mother and Matthew. (statement attached)

FATHERS is requesting your immediate attention from your very schedules to address this issue. FATHERS, Roger Choate, and I, Mike East, will assist you by any means, and at your convenience anywhere in the state to resolve this issue, and protect these children.

Sincerely,


Mike East
President, FATHERS
800-472-3741
1673 Hamburg Rd.
Kevil, KY 42053

Enclosed:

Sworn affidavits and signed statements to document this chronic abuse.