

Sam Chatur
586 Chamberlain Rd., Burlington, Ontario L7L2V5
Tel (905) 633-8140 FAX (905) 633-9223

December 13, 2001

Ontario's Office Of The Children's Lawyer
14th Floor, 393 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario. M5G 1W9

Attn: Mr. Wilson McTavish, The Children's Lawyer

Dear Mr. Mctavish

RE. Your agency's report THROWN OUT OF COURT at the expense of taxpayers!

Recently, I received a court Order in regards to my family law case in which one of your social workers, a Ms. Susan Peacey, of Oakville, Ontario was involved as the social worker representative of the Office of the Children's Lawyer.

Ms. Peacey's child and custody assessment report, which was paid for by the taxpayers was basically thrown out of court by the judge. Instead, many of the recommendations submitted by a local children's advocacy agency were implemented by the court which did not cost the taxpayers a cent. The performance of your social worker I must say has completely disgraced your agency and at the expense of the taxpayers of this province as well. Even the judge and those professionals who testified at the trial could see how biased and unreliable your social worker's report was. Your social worker, Ms. Peacey, was not even called in as a witness at trial which only goes to show how bad her report was. Even the mother's lawyer could see that your worker's report would have been cut up to shreds had your worker had taken the witness stand which would have only made things even worse for the other side.

What is an absolute sham in all of this is that I have estimated that my family law case alone, which included a trial in Milton, Ontario, has cost the good taxpayers of Ontario approximately \$250,000. This huge cost to the taxpayers was directly as a result of attempts by the mother, who is also soaking the welfare system, to deny access to my children by making false sexual abuse allegations. In the end, her attempts to destroy me and to destroy her own children by abusing the system has failed but irregardless, the taxpayers have ended up paying the huge tab for her behavior. My children have also suffered as a result of all this intrusion by the system into our lives as well. Your agency only helped to make things worse and more complicated for my children and all members of our family.

On top of this, the mother still continues to abuse the welfare system and keeps our children on welfare when I am more than willing to take the children into my loving care and support them without reliance on the welfare system at all.

As I pointed out in my letter to you prior to our trial, your social worker worked at a local women's sexual assault centre. Although your social worker tried to conceal this fact from the court and from the parties by refusing to disclose where she also worked, to anyone who took the time it was easy to find out just by calling the sexual assault treatment centre and to ask for her by name. Could her

biased and one sided report in the favour of the mother be as a result of her bias as a worker who works at a women's sexual assault treatment center?

The report done by your agency was so flawed that even the court endorsement showed that other side disagreed with the accuracy of your social worker's information. Ms. Peacey fabricated information to put in her report. Your social worker just could not get it right even if she tried.

Fortunately in the end, the good Judge had the insight to see through your worker's biased and flawed report and to throw it in the garbage where it belonged.

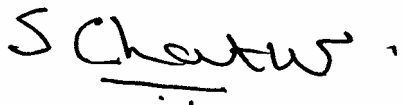
The question must be asked as to how much more of the taxpayer's money is your agency going to throw away on these flawed and biased social worker reports? If Ms. Peacey had submitted this report as a private assessor, she probably would have been forced to pay the money back to those that employed her. Just because she is an agent with the Ontario Government, does this give her the automatic right to get paid even if her work is faulty? Why do the taxpayer's of Ontario have to pay for these garbage reports?

To stop this flagrant abuse of the taxpayers I would suggest that the Office of the Children's Lawyer implement the following.

- 1) That all social workers be placed under contract as agents and to be paid under contract to produce reports.
- 2) That all social workers get paid based on their performance and that this be written in their contracts. Social workers will get paid only if **ALL** of their recommendations are accepted by the court and proven to be successful for the children and their families for at least a one year period. When we buy goods at a store we get a one year guarantee, why not with social worker reports?
- 3) That detailed procedures be implemented which clearly outline how an assessment is to be done and all of the criteria that must be included.
- 4) That all of your social worker agents be required to conduct themselves and to undertake to perform in accordance to the best interest of children and that the best interest of children be clearly defined and published.

It is a sad state of affairs when an agency such as yours, with probably tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars at its disposal cannot get its workers to their jobs in an accountable and efficient manner in the best interest of our children. I am left wondering just how many children's lives have been adversely affected by your workers up till now? How many children are suffering today as a result of flawed reports from your agency in the past?

Your prompt response and feedback in writing would be greatly appreciated.



S. Chatur - your file No. 662-00

cc: Chief of Police Ean Algar, Halton Regional Police
Selected Members of Provincial Parliament
The Ombudsman of Ontario
Legal Aid