

Thomas Klos
244 Main Street
Bingham, Maine 04920
May 7th, 2024

Nancy Torresen

United States District Judge

156 Federal Street

Portland, Maine 04101

207 780 3356

Re: Request to Hold Litigation, Provide Interpreter for Autism, and Appoint Counsel Due to Inability to Participate

23-CV-00368

Dear Judge Torresen:

We are writing to formally request a temporary pause in litigation related to [Case Name, Docket Number] due to the inability of the plaintiffs, Thomas and 'Messina,' to meaningfully participate at this time. Their current conditions and circumstances make it impossible for them to contribute effectively to this case, as detailed below.

Thomas is presently consumed by a rare genetic disorder and severe anxiety, which has led to significant mental and physical impairments. He has received a letter from his psychiatric nurse practitioner confirming his unavailability for litigation in his current condition. We respectfully request that this letter be treated confidentially due to its sensitive personal information about Thomas and that it remains accessible only to the court and not visible to the public or other parties. Thomas is receiving medical assistance and will need time to recover before being able to participate effectively.

'Messina' is also disabled and similarly unable to contribute meaningfully to this case due to

generalized depression, therapy needs, and a pulmonary embolism. She is focused on self-care and managing her other medical conditions, which significantly limit her ability to engage in the litigation.

We are also requesting that an interpreter for autism be provided for Thomas, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), when he is ready to participate further in this litigation. This will ensure that Thomas can fully comprehend the proceedings, given his unique communication barriers due to autism.

Moreover, we urge the court to appoint legal assistance for the plaintiffs as soon as possible to ensure that the rights of their 13-year-old daughter are not further infringed upon. The plaintiffs' disabilities should not be a reason for neglecting the rights of a minor.

We also respectfully request that the court refrain from making assumptions about Thomas and 'Messina' or their actions during this process. Both plaintiffs are autistic, and individuals with autism often have different ways of communicating and handling matters than neurotypical individuals. If the court encounters any confusion or requires clarification on any issue, we kindly ask that appropriate questions be directed to ensure fair and accurate understanding throughout this litigation.

This letter has been prepared by another individual and provided to Thomas and 'Messina' for their signatures. They did not participate in writing this letter but are signing below to acknowledge the contents.

We respectfully request that the court place this matter on hold until such time as Thomas and 'Messina' can adequately participate or an attorney can be appointed to represent their interests.

Sincerely,

Thomas Klos May 7, 2024
Date

'Messina' Guzman May 7, 2024
Date