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SUPERIOR COURT  
THURSTON COUNTY, WASH.

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SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON  
FOR THURSTON COUNTY  
FAMILY AND JUVENILE COURT

02 3 00436 0

*Kirsten Harris*  
Plaintiff/Petitioner,

vs.

*Dawn Riley*  
Defendant/Respondent.

NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

*To Whom It May Concern*

NAME: *Kirsten Harris*  
ADDRESS: *223 Lark St SW*  
*Tumwater WA 98512*  
PHONE: *(360) 352-1400*

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To Whom It May Concern,

The reasons I am seeking Non-Parental Custody are as follows:

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I have known both parents of Starcia Marie Ague for approximately 17 years. Her mother, Dawna Riley, brought Starcia to my home after discovering that Starcia was living in un-safe and squalorous conditions. She had given Starcia to her father approximately three years prior, and since father Daniel Ague is awaiting trial on meth manufacture charges, he had been bouncing Starcia from home to home, unable to settle down; Since child endangerment charges are an "enhancement" to his current charges, he was not to have physical custody of her at all (please see attached), and it is with this understanding that Dawna resumed temporary control over her daughter. Since Dawna herself at the time was essentially "homeless", had a three year old in tow and one on the way, (baby girl Faith Grace was born just yesterday 4/8/02) it was not a possibility that Dawna keep Starcia. Dawna signed Power of Attorney over to me so that I could properly provide for Starcia at least until school was out (please see attached). When Starcia came here the extent of her neglect was clear. She owned very little in the way of clothing and personal items, was unaware of certain feminine hygiene issues, and it was clear she was an emotional wreck when it came to her parents. She had many conflicting feelings and was terrified of being removed from my home. In my attempt to obtain a medical coupon for her (which dad was collecting at the time) I had a verbal altercation with her father, who then in his anger and vengeance contacted Dawna at her residence and they both decided to join forces together to remove Starcia from me. Starcia, who appears to be terrified of both her parents, had been working on the possibility of filing a CHINS petition.

After dad tried to unsuccessfully remove her from my home and was arrested, (please see attached) Starcia filed this petition on Friday 4-5-02, (please see attached) and both parents followed law enforcement to Juvenile Court to prevent this action; Both were trespassed and asked to leave the property after creating a disturbance in the lobby. The both left willingly, content that Starcia would be placed in a foster home instead of my custody. What they did not realize was that because of their outrageous behavior court officials decided that Protective Custody was the only safe place for Starcia, and told me that for her safety and mine, and the safety of my children, restraining orders were necessary if Starcia was to return home. (Please see attached).

These two individuals have historically displayed poor parenting skills, and a complete lack of judgment where Starcia is concerned. Starcia has given a full statement to social worker Ross McDouggal depicting years of abuse and negligence, and it is my wish that Starcia remain in my home, which is safe and all her needs can be met.

I have also been a loyal advocate of Dawna, helping her find resources, a home for her two babies, a car, and anything else she needs. But because of a lack of trust I have to deal with her constantly vacillating. To Starcia and I, and the support system I have in place for her, Dawna

claims that she "Only wants her daughter to be happy" and had "No problem signing a custodial decree" that would give me residential rights to Starcia. She then will become angry and refuse, creating discord in my home, as she realizes that Starcia refuses and is scared to leave, and has no intention of returning to live with her mother due to past circumstances. This going back and forth was emotionally too much for Starcia to take. I kept trying to get Dawna to "Co-parent" Starcia with me, and she would sound enthusiastic one day, the next day accuse Starcia of "following the money", being a "liar and manipulator" and "running the show", and accusing me of being "controlling".

This is a situation that must not continue. Starcia carries deep emotional scars and her allegations against her parents are well substantiated. There is no question Starcia is telling the truth, and when mom feels inclined to she is pleasant and agrees. When she is not inclined to agree, she is mean and domineering to Starcia, and argumentative with me.

It is my wish that Starcia be placed with me and I additionally request that services are ordered for this family.

I swear under penalty of perjury the above is true and correct.

Kirsten M. Harrod  
Kirsten M. Harrod

4-9-02