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**Nov 09 2022**

**SC Court of Appeals**

November 9, 2022

Jenny Abbott Kitchings, Clerk of Court

Court of Appeals

1220 Senate Street

Columbia, SC 29201

(803) 734-1890

Dear Ms. Kitchings,

We are responding to Appellants Return on Respondents Motion to Dismiss Case No. 2022-000577.

The original unlawful restraining order from Magistrate Court expires November 10, 2022. It has expired. There will be no reoccurrence in the future because Appellant will never be successful in obtaining another restraining order against respondents. There was no basis for expired order. Not with the adults or minor child. Respondents were unrepresented in Magistrate court in November 2021 and were erroneously and unjustly issued order by a Magistrate Judge with no law degree. Magistrate Judge's ruling was a travesty. Magistrate's unjust ruling has caused Respondents unnecessary, senseless pain and suffering.

Respondents took the best care of Appellant, Jaime Hood Hopkins, and their granddaughter, RH, for 8 1/2 years. In February 2019, Appellant opened a DSS case against her ex-husband, Respondents son; James Hopkins. Appellant told Respondents James could only see his daughter (Respondents granddaughter) under her supervision. Appellant made herself the one and only supervisor and never allowed father to see his daughter a single time. DSS is an incompetent organization.

James lived with Respondents (his parents) at that time (February 2019) and had received nothing from DSS. Appellant lied to Respondents stating she tried to make them James' supervisors and DSS would not allow. Appellant did not ask for Respondents to be supervisors. Grandparents supervise frequently with DSS. Respondents told Appellant that James Hopkins had not been contacted by DSS and had not received any paperwork. Respondents picked up their granddaughter from school frequently at this time and told Appellant they would not tell father (their son) he could not come home from work because his daughter was at their home. Respondents assured Appellant they would not let their son take his daughter anywhere and they would supervise. Respondents had supervised both Appellant and their son for years. Both Appellant and son were opiate addicts. Respondents protected their granddaughter from her own mother (Appellant) at times. When Respondents would not agree to prevent their son from seeing his daughter under their supervision, Appellant removed herself and child from Respondents life. Respondents have been alienated and have suffered extensively for over 3 1/2 years. The Circuit Court overturned the Magistrate's restraining order in April 2022. The

order has been reversed 7 months and Respondents have not seen their granddaughter. ***The reason being is Appellant is blackmailing Respondents son, James Hopkins, with a positive drug test.*** James has admitted it. James chooses smoking marijuana over his daughter and his entire family seeing his daughter. If Respondents' son would stop smoking marijuana; Appellant would not be able to blackmail and control. Appellant tells her ex-husband if he allows Respondents to see their granddaughter, she will enforce the drug test and he will not see his daughter. (Per mediation papers if Respondents son fails drug test his visitation goes to therapeutic only)

***Respondents have included a text from their son, James Hopkins, stating granddaughter wants to see them. The text is dated September 21, 2022. Yet Appellant will continue to lie and say granddaughter doesn't want to see Respondents. The text from Respondents son states, " Bc she (Appellant) called me on speaker phone with Riley and I know Riley wants to see y'all... I've been working on it. "***

Why would there be anything to work on? Respondents' son has Judge Brown's visitation but Appellant controls his visitation and Respondents are not allowed to see their granddaughter. Again, blackmail with a positive drug test is why. ***Drugs are the reason Appellant and her former boyfriend opened the DSS case in February of 2019. Respondents' son's drug use was a problem for the Appellant in 2019 and she went to great lengths in preventing Respondents son from seeing his daughter because of drugs but drugs are not a problem now?*** She even successfully made it where Respondents son could only see daughter in therapeutic sessions in 2019. ***But fast forward to 2022 and it is ok for a child to be around a drug using father as long as loving, nurturing grandparents don't see the child? It is heinous and evil.***

Appellant does not want Respondents around child for fear of exposure with all the evil she and her parents have done. All the poison and lies they have told the child. In November 2021, Appellant had Respondent, Greg Hopkins, put in jail for bringing granddaughter a hover board and gifts when not a soul was home. Respondent was given permission to take the hover board by Lieutenant Byrd of Laurens County Police Department. Appellant and her parents had given Respondents a trespass notice in April of 2019 when Respondents attempted to take granddaughter an Easter basket from child's paternal great grandmother. Lieutenant Byrd told Respondent that a trespass notice was only good a year and told him to go when no one was home. Respondent did exactly that and a warrant was sworn out for his arrest and he went to jail for a couple of hours for taking his granddaughter gifts. These are the type people Respondents have attempted to reason with for all these years. What kind of grandparent puts another grandparent in jail for bringing their granddaughter gifts? But they all let us provide everything financially and totally take care of our granddaughter for 8 and 1/2 years. The betrayal and backstabbing is unheard of. These types of extreme situations do not happen. So Appellant is trying to cover up a lot of evil behaviors and lies. Even at the expense of what's best for her own child in keeping an entire loving family away. It's self-preservation at all costs. And protecting themselves. After they were successful with the restraining order last

November... Appellant and her parents yanked Respondents granddaughter out of school mid-year and moved from Gray Court (where they resided all their life) to Spartanburg. When you do the terrible things that Appellant has done to Respondents... word gets around. People talk. Respondents believe Appellant and her family packed up and moved away because of it. Tried to run away from their atrocities. And Appellant will continue to attempt to poison and teach an innocent child to hate grandparents who practically raised her and who she adored and loved so much. ***It is appalling what Appellant accomplished through a Magistrate Judge who is no more qualified to make a family court ruling than Respondents. Reprehensible.*** And Respondents realize that much of what we are stressing is a Family Court Matter. And these matters should be addressed by Family Court and a caring, qualified Guardian Ad Litem. ***That is the entire point of this plea to dismiss. Magistrate Court ridiculously decided for a child. He acted and ruled as if he was Family Court and a GAL. In an hour he severed Respondents visitation and communication with a child they practically raised. He had no knowledge or authority. He did irreparable damage and Respondents have paid dearly for his mistake.***

After not seeing our beloved granddaughter for 17 months... on Thursday, October 27, Respondents went to a football game at Florence Chapel Middle School, where granddaughter is a 7th grade cheerleader. The game started a 5 pm and Respondents arrived about 5:10pm. Respondents' granddaughter was on the field cheering. Appellant was not at game at this time. Granddaughter was with her maternal grandfather, Tommy Hood, who has been the ring leader in all this evil. Respondents sat at the game beaming with pride and joy seeing their granddaughter cheer. Just laying eyes on her after such a long time. So familiar but so unfamiliar, too. 12-year-old children change a lot in 17 months. It is sad how much we have senselessly been deprived of. We smiled from ear to ear the entire time. Granddaughter saw Respondents and smiled. Neither Respondents nor granddaughter said a word. At half time, Respondent's granddaughter went up to the top of the steps to where her maternal grandfather was sitting. Granddaughter looked at Respondents and smiled on the way up. Respondents believe granddaughter asked Tommy Hood if she could speak to us and he refused.

Granddaughter did not return to sidelines after halftime. Respondents walked to the top of the stairs and Tommy Hood was no longer sitting where he was when Respondents arrived at game. Respondents left the stadium and went to vehicle. 10 minutes passed and Respondent, Greg Hopkins, walked back in the stadium. He saw Granddaughter and Appellant sitting in lower area of stadium. Respondents left. ***Appellant and Respondent's granddaughter did not leave as stated in Appellants return on Respondents Motion to Dismiss.*** There is no order against Respondents. ***Appellant cannot prevent Respondents from peacefully coming to a public place.*** Per Respondents' son...Appellant made a huge deal out of Respondents coming to game and spoke with school counselor the next day. Appellant put the restraining order in child's school records last November 2021. Respondents knew the order was there and is still in her files because Respondents know someone who worked at school granddaughter attended last year. Respondents never sent the reversal over to school on the restraining order.

Respondents didn't want to call the school and have such an embarrassing discussion. The restraining order was already reversed when Respondents granddaughter started new school in August. However, Appellant led the new school to believe there was an order in place when she went to the school and made a big deal out of loving grandparents coming to a public place to see their granddaughter cheer. Respondents were told by school officials the school thought the order was still in place. On October 29, 2022, Respondents again sent Appellant an email begging Appellant to stop this and to allow us to see our granddaughter. Respondents' son sent the email to Appellant. Respondents' son said Appellant wanted the email. Again... why are Respondents having to ask Appellant's permission to see granddaughter on son's time? Blackmail. (Email included.)

***The embarrassment Respondents feel from an unjust restraining order issued by a magistrate judge with a child who we love and protected with our life is absolutely debilitating. It is painful, hurtful, and embarrassing... just too much to stomach. Appellant is a deceitful person who has refused to communicate with respondents in 3 1/2 years but Appellant plays the victim and acts like we are some bad, unfit grandparents with a restraining order INSTEAD OF THE PEOPLE WHO LOVED HER AND WHO SHE DEPENDED ON FOR EVERYTHING FOR 8 1/2 YEARS. AND MOST OF ALL WE WERE THE PRIMARY CARE GIVERS FOR OUR GRANDDAUGHTER FOR 8 1/2 YEARS. We took the absolute best care of our granddaughter. Showered her with love, affection, protection, security, and anything her heart desired. We financially supported them both. And this is our reward for years of selflessly doing? Appellant getting a restraining order put in place against good, loving grandparents by an incompetent Magistrate Judge. And attempting to poison our granddaughter and trying to teach the child to hate us? It is unfit in every way. And we are angry and resentful over our unjust treatment. We have lost faith in our judicial system with what we have endured the last 4 years. Corruption in Family Court and incompetence in Magistrate Court.***

Counsel for Appellant states we "mischaracterized" Family Court actions. Respondents certainly have not mischaracterized a single thing. Appellant certainly DID attempt to get a no contact put in Mediation papers in 2020. We heard the tape. She was denied. Counsel for Appellant does not have a clue about this case or what transpired in Family Court because she was not involved nor Appellant's attorney. Counsel Shanise Greenfield, entered the picture years after this case started ... Ms. Greenfield appeared in November of 2021, representing Appellant in an unscrupulous attempt to put a restraining order against loving grandparents. What are Counsels motives? Respondents are not attorneys but have no idea why any attorney would want to be a part of such an unjust case. And then Counsel for Appellant appealed the Circuit Court reversal and continued to push and attempt to hurt Respondents when Counsel has never done an Appellate Case appeal. (According to respondents' son who was told this by Appellant.) Appellant has pretended to be a victim and obtained free legal service and has not been truthful about anything. And Appellant is blackmailing her ex-husband. Isn't blackmail a crime? Again...

**Family Court is the ONLY COURT that has subject matter jurisdiction for a child.** An unqualified Magistrate Judge severed all our visitation/ communication with a child we practically raised. A child who we loved and nurtured since birth. **Appellant and her parents told our granddaughter If she came to see us, we would be arrested and go to jail. This is a moral outrage. And child abuse. It should be offensive and disgusting to every parent and grandparent in this country. And any scrupulous person for that matter.**

Respondents filed the Motion to Dismiss in July. **The original Magistrate order has since expired. It is therefore moot. Magistrate Court did not have subject matter jurisdiction.** This denotes a change in circumstances. Counsel states Appellants' appeal was filed in good faith. Negative. It is evil in every way. Appalling. **Who gives loving grandparents a restraining order for begging to see a child they love? That is why Respondents were given the order. Begging and begging and begging to see a child we love. Through emails. It is unfathomable.**

Respondents have had to fend for themselves. We are not attorneys. We could not afford 15 thousand for an Appellate attorney. We have spent 100's of hours unnecessarily on this appeal. It is not fair nor just. We are Christians who love our granddaughter and want to see her. Our suffering has been senseless and painful and extensive. **We are begging the court to dismiss this case and give us much deserved relief.**

Respectfully,

Amy and Greg Hopkins

would bring her next time.

SEP 21 AT 8:24 AM



I'm hoping she has  
changed her tune now.

Why would she?



Bc she called me on  
speaker phone with Riley  
and I kno Riley wants to  
see yall...I've been workin  
on it.

Thank you.

**From:** Amy Hopkins <[amynhop@netscape.net](mailto:amynhop@netscape.net)>

Date: October 29, 2022 at 10:02:58 PM EDT

To: [jamiehop11@gmail.com](mailto:jamiehop11@gmail.com)

Subject: **Riley**

Jaime,

I would like to take you to lunch and have a conversation with you. We desperately want to see Riley. It's been 17 months and this senseless situation has been going on 3 and 1/2 years. We are not trying to hurt you any way with Riley. We are not trying to bad mouth you or tell her anything. We just want to be in her life and love her. We have missed her terribly. A memory pops up in my iPad of her daily. It's so painful. She and I had a beautiful relationship. I just want to be her Mimi Amy. I have tried so many times over the years to talk to you.

I was shocked how much Riley has grown when I saw her cheering. It broke my heart that I couldn't even speak to a child who I spent so much time with for so many years. A child who we knew so very well. Or hug her. Or tell her how good she was. Or tell her how much we love her. Or share a laugh with her. Just normal things. Can you imagine that kind of pain? She was in our life daily and then gone. Without warning. It's been so very hard. There is a hole in my heart without that precious child.

Riley is so beautiful as she always has been. She has your cute figure. But she looks like her daddy. Haha! She is such a great cheerleader. I knew she would be. She's always had such great moves. I was so proud of her. Jaime... I'm heartsick. She was such a huge part of our life. You were too. There is such a void in my life without Riley. We just want to shower her with goodness and love. That's all. We are her flesh and blood. She is part of us. Everyone in our family misses her. Life is so short. Way too short not to spend time with loved ones.

God teaches us to love. And to forgive. Can't we please have a conversation? Aren't you sick of all this heartache? Please talk to me, Jaime. You haven't had a conversation with us in over 3 years. Please, Jaime. Soften your heart. We never know what tomorrow will bring. As you know... Jamie had a wreck and I'm so thankful God was watching over him. Josh and Courtney's best friend, Macy Sweatman, was in a terrible boating accident in Charleston a couple of weeks ago and it isn't looking good for her. My good friend from college who was healthy and beautiful died inexplicably in her sleep a few weeks ago. Please, Jaime. Christmas is around the corner. I am praying for a Christmas miracle. You are a child of God. We all are. I know Riley loves us and would like to see us if you would allow it. I pray so hard every single day.

Please, Jaime.

Amy

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**Nov 09 2022**

**THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**SC Court of Appeals**

**In The Court of Appeals**

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**APPEAL FROM LAURENS COUNTY**

**Court of Common Pleas**

**Eugene C. Griffith, Jr. Circuit Court Judge**

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**Case No. 2022- 000577**

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**Gregory D. Hopkins and Amy N. Hopkins, Respondents,**

**v.**

**Jaime Hood Hopkins,**

**Appellant.**

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

We certify we have served Respondent's Response on Appellant's Return to Motion to Dismiss by emailing a copy on November 9, 2022, to South Carolina Court of Appeals @ [ctappfilings@sccourts.org](mailto:ctappfilings@sccourts.org) and mailed a copy to Shanise Greenfield Greenfield Law Firm 655 H. Fairview Road PMB #358 Simpsonville SC 29680 via first class Mail

**Greg and Amy Hopkins**

**108 Fairway Drive**

**Laurens, SC 29360**

**Amynhop@netscape.net**