

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF: : CASE NO. 2007-1310
: :
JOHN STEELE : On Appeal from Cuyahoga
JORDAN STEELE : County Court of Appeals,
: Eighth Appellate District
: :
: Court of Appeals
: Case No. 89494

APPELLEE/MOTHER KAREN STEELE'S BRIEF IN OPPOSITION
TO "APPELLANT'S MOTION FOR IMMEDIATE
STAY OF COURT OF APPEALS' JUDGMENT"

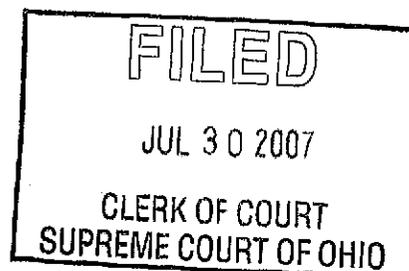
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GUARDIAN AD LITEM FOR CHILD

BRIEF IN OPPOSITION
TO "APPELLANT'S MOTION FOR IMMEDIATE
STAY OF COURT OF APPEALS' JUDGMENT"

Appellee/Mother Karen Steele respectfully opposes the Appellant Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services "MOTION FOR IMMEDIATE STAY OF COURT OF APPEALS' JUDGMENT" which involves a dismissal of Appellant's appeal on the trial court's denial of their permanent custody motion involving two teenage boys who testified that they did not wish to be adopted. It is indeed a difficult task to determine what is really motivating Appellant in its request for a stay.

First, Appellant states on page 1 of its brief that "the trial court will be required to commence further proceedings on the merits..." Then on page 2, Appellant states "there is no impediment to the trial court proceeding with further hearing and rendering any appeal by Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services moot..."

However, there are absolutely no motions pending at the trial court. All of the attorneys/guardians ad litem on the case are court-appointed except Appellant's attorney. Their roles ended when the trial court made its ruling (except for work on appeals). The only attorney who has any viable or real ability to file with the trial court is Appellant's legal counsel. But, to reiterate, there is nothing pending.

In addition, all of the participants in the trial court support the two boys staying in their current foster home where they are thriving. There are no participants in this case who would want to change the boys' placement. (Except perhaps Appellant, although there is nothing in the trial transcripts that an adoptive home is available, save for a relative whom the boys do not wish to live with.)

The trial court, in its decision to keep the boys where they are, makes numerous references in its opinion that the current foster home is the best placement.

Therefore, mother opposes the Appellant's request for a stay as it is simply unnecessary.

Respectfully submitted,

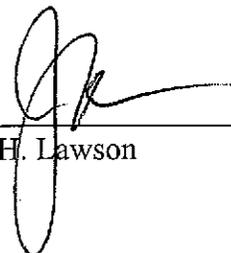


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A copy of the foregoing **Appellee/Mother Karen Steele's Brief in Opposition to "APPELLANT'S MOTION FOR IMMEDIATE STAY OF COURT OF APPEALS' JUDGMENT"** was sent via ordinary U.S. mail, postage prepaid to, Joseph C. Young, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services, 8111 Quincy Ave., Rm. 341, Cleveland, OH 44104, Thomas Kozel, P.O. Box 534, North Olmsted, OH 44070, Linda Julian, Guardian ad litem., P.O. Box 93523, Cleveland, OH 44101 and Michael Granito, Counsel for the Children, 24400 Highland Rd., Richmond Hts., OH 44143 on this 23rd day of July, 2007.



John H. Lawson