1 2 3	JUVENILE COURT CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER STATE OF COLORADO 1437 Bannock St., Room 157 Denver, CO 80202
4	IN THE INTEREST OF: CASE NO. 08JV141
5	DIVISION 2
6	PETITIONER: ROBERT MANZANARES
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9	RESPONDENT: CARIE TERRY
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11	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT
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13	The hearing in this matter commenced on
14	Friday, February 29, 2008, before the HONORABLE D.
15	BRETT WOODS, Judge of the Denver Juvenile Court.
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AFTERNOON SESSION, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2008 1 (The following proceedings were had and 2 entered of record:) 3 THE COURT: All right. Good afternoon. 4 We're here on Manzanares, 2008JV0141. If individuals 5 involved could enter their appearances for the record, 6 7 please. MS. BERKELEY: Good afternoon, Your Honor, 8 Emily A. Berkeley, Reg No. 36240. I'm present here 9 with Petitioner Robert Manzanares sitting beside me. 10 THE COURT: Good afternoon. 11 RESPONDENT: Good afternoon, Your Honor. 12 Carie Terry Respondent. 13 THE COURT: Good afternoon. 14 MS. BURGOS: Vivian Burgos, Guardian Ad 15 Litem. Good afternoon. 16 THE COURT: All right. This matter is here 17 today on the paternity petition that was filed by the 18 Petitioner Mr. Manzanares, and it is before the Court 19 for a ruling on the issue of jurisdiction, which the 20 Court will proceed to, and also the petition that has 21 been filed. 22 Case is before the Court on the verified 23 petition for paternity pursuant to section 19-4-101, 24

et al., and to enjoin adoption pursuant to 19-5-200.

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I'll -- I'll be going through the history of the case and just proceed to the ruling.

History of the case is as follows: At the outset the Court notes that it takes judicial notice of its files and of the prior orders in the case. On January 16, 2008, Petitioner Robert Manzanares through his attorney filed a verified petition for paternity pursuant to section 19-4-101, Colorado Revised Statutes, and also to enjoin adoption pursuant to section 19-5-200 of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Title 19 of the Colorado Revised Statutes is commonly known as the Colorado Children's Code. Title 19 contains the law also known as the Uniform Parentage Act.

The petition filed by Mr. Manzanares alleges that he is the father and that the Respondent Carie Terry is the mother of a child that as of January 16, 2008, had not been born. Petition alleged that the mother Ms. Terry was approximately 31 weeks and two days pregnant as of January 16, 2008. Paragraph 7 of the petition father alleges that the mother does not dispute that he Mr. Manzanares, the Petitioner, is the father of the child and that the Respondent Ms. Terry is the mother.

In summary, the petition also alleged that

the father believed that the mother had plans to surreptitiously make the child available for adoption immediately upon his or her birth. Father alleged that the mother will flee to Utah where she has family to proceed with an adoption. Further, father alleged that he had been voluntarily providing financial support to the mother.

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Father requested in his petition the following: One, the determination that he Petitioner is the father. Two, to determine that there is a parent-child relationship between the child and father once the child is born. Three, that allocation of parental responsibilities, decision making and parenting time, be addressed upon the child's birth. Four, that costs be assessed. Five, that he be allowed access to medical information concerning the child. Six, that this Court enjoin the adoption of the child immediately and prior to the child's birth.

On January 16, 2008, the father also filed with this court an admission of paternity that was verified. A summons in paternity was also filed. A summons set the return date on February 20, 2008, at 9 a.m. in Room 281 of the Denver Juvenile Court. On February 12, 2008, a return of service was filed with the court. Return of service stated that Carie Terry

had been personally served on February 1, 2008, at 8:30 p.m. at an address in the city and county of Denver, state of Colorado.

Also on February 12, 2008, Respondent mother, Carie Terry, filed with the court a motion to continue the February 20, 2008, return hearing. In her motion to continue, Respondent stated she called the Denver County Court on February 11, 2008, in search of finding the necessary forms to respond to a paternity petition.

she stated that a court caseworker then asked if she knew there was a summons for her to appear for February 20. Respondent stated that she then notified the unnamed court assistant and unnamed supervisor that she had neither been served a summons nor had she signed a waiver of service to notify her of the paternity hearing.

Respondent in her motion then asked the Court to consider her response to the paternity petition sufficient thus sufficing any need to hold a paternity hearing. She then stated that if the Court still wanted to hold a paternity hearing that it do so in the latter part of March. She then referred to her father's health issue and travel plans and she would not be available for a hearing on February 20.

On February 12, 2008, Respondent also filed a typed response to the petition for paternity. In her response the mother agreed to paragraph 7 of the petition in paternity. Paragraph 7 of the petition in paternity is the paragraph that specifically alleged that the Petitioner is the father of the child.

Mother stated that she had no knowledge of any other proceedings besides the paternity petition in this case. The mother wrote that two checks were never received by her.

Mother asked the Court to, one, deny the Petitioner a parent-child relationship once the baby is born for the best interests of the baby. Two, to deny the birth certificate to reflect the Petitioner as the father for the best interests of the baby once born. Three, to deny the Petitioner parental rights and responsibilities once the baby is born for the best interests of the baby. Four, to allow adoption proceedings upon the baby's birth for the best interests of the baby. Five, to support the fact that mother has sufficiently communicated medical information regarding the health of the unborn baby and to deny the Petitioner access to the mother and unborn baby's medical records. And finally, the mother's costs to be paid by the Petitioner.

On February 20, 2008, a hearing was held before the magistrate in Room 281 of this court. The minute orders of the court reflect that the Respondent called the Clerk's Office the morning of the hearing and stated that she was out of town. Minute order states that the Court called the Respondent on the phone number listed on the pleadings, but the minute order does not state if there was an answer. The Court then continued the matter until March 5 and ordered that the Respondent appear at the March 5 hearing. A Guardian Ad Litem, attorney Vivian Burgos, was also appointed for the child.

On February 26 an emergency motion for a forthwith hearing was filed with the court by the Petitioner. The emergency motion alleged that the mother had given birth to the baby, a girl, in Utah within the last five days and that the mother had illegally placed the daughter with an adoptive family in Utah.

The emergency motion requested that the father be given emergency temporary allocation of parental responsibilities. A hearing was held on February 27, 2008, before this Court. At the hearing the Petitioner appeared and was represented by counsel. The Respondent appeared pro se meaning that

she appeared by herself without an attorney. No evidence was taken at the hearing but argument and offers of proof were received by the Court.

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At the hearing the Court on its own motion raised the issue of subject matter jurisdiction. The Court ordered the parties to brief by four p.m. yesterday, Thursday, February 28, the issue of subject matter jurisdiction. Those briefs have been received, and the Court thanks the parties for their timely response and for the quality of the briefs.

The Court now makes the following further findings of fact and conclusions of law: The general assembly has declared the policy of this state in the Children's Code under section 19-1-102. The purposes of the Children's Code are, one, to secure for each child subject to the provisions of the Code such care and quidance, preferably in the child's own home, as will best serve the welfare and interests of society. Two, to preserve and strengthen family ties whenever possible, including improvement of the home environment. Three, to remove a child from the custody of his parents only when his welfare and safety or the protection of the public would otherwise be endangered and, in either instance, for the courts to proceed with all possible speed to a legal

determination that will serve the best interests of the child. The general assembly has instructed the Court to construe the Children's Code to serve the welfare of children and the best interests of society.

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The Uniform Parentage Act, which is found within the Children's Code, further provides that the parent and child relationship extends equally to every child and to every parent regardless of the marital status of the parents. The parent and child relationship includes the mother and child relationship and the father and child relationship.

Parentage Act provides that the relationship is established pursuant to the terms of the Act. A man is presumed to be the natural father of a child if he acknowledges his paternity of the child in writing filed with the court or with the registrar of vital statistics. The mother must be notified of the acknowledgment and not dispute the acknowledgment within a reasonable period of time by filing a dispute with the court or the registrar of vital statistics.

A presumption of paternity may only be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence. A legal finding of paternity may be challenged in court only on the basis of fraud, duress, or mistake of material

fact, with the burden of proof being upon the challenger.

A proceeding to determine paternity is commenced by the summons and petition. That is of course what happened here. Section 19-4-105.5(3) specifically provides that proceedings under the article may be commenced prior to the birth of a child. I find that this proceeding was brought before the child was born.

Under the terms of the Act, I find that

Mr. Manzanares was a proper person to bring the

paternity action as he is a man who is presumed to be

the father under the paternity act. The Act provides

that venue is proper in the Juvenile Court. The

Juvenile Court is defined by the Children's Code as

the Juvenile Court of the City and County of Denver.

This case was initiated in this court by the

Petitioner.

The Act provides that this action may be brought in the county in which the child or the alleged father resides or is found. The mother was served in Denver County. In addition, the mother has appeared in this court at the hearing on February 26, 2008. Respondent mother did not object to venue. Prior to the hearing she filed her motion to continue

and her response to the petition. Since the February 26, 2008, hearing, she has filed a brief on the issue of subject matter jurisdiction.

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I find that venue is proper in this court. Both parties have stated to the Court that they have no knowledge of any other proceeding regarding paternity in any other court. The Act further provides that the child may be made a party to the action. By using the word may, it is clear that the Act does not require that the child be made a party to the action. Indeed, the Act goes on to provide that the individuals that are required to be a party to the action are the natural mother and each man presumed to be the father and each man alleged to be the natural father. The Act further provides that the case may be commenced before the child is born.

As to subject matter jurisdiction, the Court finds that it has subject matter jurisdiction. As stated, the Act does not require that the child be made a party to the action for the Court to have jurisdiction. The Colorado Supreme Court addressed this issue in the 1969 decision of <a href="People v.">People v.</a>
<a href="Estergard">Estergard</a>, which is found at 457 P.2d page 698.

In that decision the Supreme Court held that the Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over the subject

matter of the petition in paternity from the moment it is filed in the Juvenile Court. The child in <a href="Estergard">Estergard</a> also had not been born. The Supreme Court construed the word child to include children not yet born for purposes of the paternity statute. For these reasons, the Court once again finds that it has subject matter jurisdiction. The Court has jurisdiction over the parties and over the subject and the Court so finds.

The question now comes on whether the Court should grant the father's request and enter an order and judgment of paternity. The Court has reviewed its files including the pleadings filed in this case and the allegations and admissions contained therein.

Manzanares has alleged in his verified petition for paternity that he is the father of the child. He has alleged in paragraph 7 of his petition the following, and I quote, mother does not dispute that the child who is the subject of this petition is the issue of Petitioner father and mother, unquote. The mother in her response to the petition for paternity and in particular to that allegation responded and again I quote, agree, unquote.

Accordingly, the question of whether the

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Petitioner is the father of the child is not in dispute. The Petitioner is the father of the child. Moreover, under the expressed terms of the Parentage Act, Court is not prohibited from making this decision because the child is not a party to the case.

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Further, under the terms of the Act and authority from our Supreme Court, this Court is not prohibited from making this determination because this matter was filed before the child was born.

Accordingly, as to the issue of paternity and the issue not being in dispute, it is the judgment and order of the Court that the Petitioner Robert Manzanares is the biological father of the child and has all the legal rights and responsibilities that he is entitled by law as to the child. It is further ordered that the father's name be listed as the biological father on the birth certificate. Order will issue as to -- excuse me, as to a judgment of paternity.

Now I think that is the issue that was before the Court today on the issue of paternity. One moment. Now there have been some other issues that have been raised including issues regarding custody and enjoining the adoption and so on and, counsel,

I'll just go down the line then. Would you like to be heard at this time on the -- that issue?

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MS. BERKELEY: Yeah. We're prepared to move forward on that issue although in enjoining the adoption -- if you read mom's motion, I believe that's already occurred, so I think -- if you'd be willing to enjoin it and go put -- enforce that, I would love to move forward with that but.

THE COURT: All right. One thing we do need, clerk reminded me, need to fill out a report of paternity determination and that needs to be filed with the court, so we do need to get that in.

Now the question that I had on the remaining issue is looking at the issue of the Uniform

Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act and that Act contemplates some communication between this

Court and courts in other jurisdictions, and my question is, what information, if any, do you need?

I'm not certain that I can issue an order enjoining something in another state but be happy to find out what information you think you need, and I want to hear from the Guardian and also from you, ma'am, anything you want to say, so counsel.

MS. BERKELEY: Your Honor, the thing is I don't necessarily know if you need to consult with the

other court in the other state because mom' specifically says in her memo that adoption proceedings are not governed by the UCCJEA; that they are not custody proceedings. Accordingly, there's been no custody proceeding filed in the state of Utah, and I believe because the Court found there's subject matter jurisdiction, Court can issue a custody order right now and it can be enforced in Utah.

Mom alleges on page 2 -- not numbered -- under subsection II of her -- of her memo --

THE COURT: What is the order of custody that I have the authority to issue either under this Act or the parenting act or what Act are you referring me to you believe would be able to be enforced elsewhere outside of the state of Colorado?

MS. BERKELEY: I'm sorry, I didn't hear the beginning.

THE COURT: I'm sorry. What order do you believe I can issue regarding custody and under what statute in Colorado that can be enforced in the state of Utah or some other state?

MS. BERKELEY: Well, under the UCCJEA there's two ways you can grant custody because we are arguing Colorado is the home state of the child, and I can make oral argument on that point. Under

14-13-10- -- sorry, 201 -- actually 102(7), but more importantly 201 because of the home state, this Court can make an initial child-custody determination.

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But at the very least, under 14-13-106 this Court can make orders under temporary emergency jurisdiction because we believe the best interests of the child are in imminent and present danger as Colorado law has stated, and we had put in our pleadings that it is in the child's best interest to be presumed to be with the biological parents, and since the child is not with her biological parents, her best interests are not being met, so I think under either of those statutes.

THE COURT: 14-13-201 and 14-13-106?

MS. BERKELEY: Sorry -- I'm sorry, 204, I apologize -- 206, simultaneous proceedings, and I say there aren't. There's been no custody action filed in Utah.

THE COURT: Well, assuming for a moment that I decide that I can issue that order under either of those two statutes, which I will need to think about, what would be your plan after that?

MS. BERKELEY: You mean after you entered an order?

THE COURT: Yes.

MS. BERKELEY: Well, currently there's -- we have retained counsel in Utah, and he has filed -- he's not filed -- he's prepared petitions, and he's waiting to see what to do depending on what you do today because if you retained jurisdiction, in Utah he has a very, very good chance of negating the adoption, so if we have an order, what he'll do is go to Utah and Utah say recognize -- probably recognize Colorado has jurisdiction and this is the order, and he'll present that with the petition for paternity, which is how they do it over there.

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THE COURT: I'm not -- all right. So you are asking for an order under 14-13-201 and/or 14-13-204?

MS. BERKELEY: That's correct. And attorney Dale Dorius in Utah said he would try to be available if you needed to talk to him. He's in a canyon driving but would try to answer the cell.

THE COURT: I'm not in the habit of making ex-parte communications. If they want to participate in open court by phone, that's another matter.

MS. BERKELEY: That's what I would be suggesting if you wanted to call him on the record.

THE COURT: Is that what you're asking to have happen?

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MS. BERKELEY: No. Just offering -- I don't
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    think it's necessary. He has already prepared all of
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    the proper pleadings.
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                           Do you have a form of order that
               THE COURT:
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    you can prepare for the Court?
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               MS. BERKELEY: I can prepare one when I go
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    back to my office today if that's what you're asking.
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                           All right. I'm not -- okay.
               THE COURT:
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    Thank you. What else -- what other information are
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    you asking for or are you asking from this Court?
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               MS. BERKELEY: Well, we would like the
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    father to have immediate information regarding the
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    whereabouts of the child, medical information
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    regarding the child, and because there's --
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               THE COURT: Hang on. Need information
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    regarding -- say that again.
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               MS. BERKELEY: Immediate location and
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    medical access to the child.
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               THE COURT: Location, medical access.
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    right.
               MS. BERKELEY: Location and medical access
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    and that -- I believe --
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               THE COURT: What is next?
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               MS. BERKELEY: You already determined there
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    is a parent-child relationship I believe, so we'd like
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to address APR. We'd like you to address attorney 1 fees, and we didn't put in a wherefore, but you have 2 jurisdiction over mom, we're -- we're very worried 3 about the health of this child. We have a strong 4 suspicion it -- the baby was born due -- she induced 5 labor -- premature labor and the child was endangered 6 because of that, so like to access mom's medical 7 records as well since you have jurisdiction over her. 8 9 THE COURT: All right. What we're dealing with then, the immediate issue, you're asking for 10 information regarding the location, medical access to 11 the child. You're asking that I order some type of 12 APR, which is allocation of parental responsibilities. 13 MS. BERKELEY: And father be allowed to go 14 collect the child since she is out of the hospital 1.5 16 immediately. THE COURT: All right. All right. I will 17 come back to all of that. Thank you. All right. 18 Ma'am, thank you for your patience and for waiting. 19 RESPONDENT: No problem, Your Honor. 20 THE COURT: What are you asking at this 21 point or what questions or concerns do you have? 22 RESPONDENT: Well, I would just like to 23 point out a few things to the Court. Definitely I 24 would like to dispute the accuracy of the briefing 25

they submitted yesterday. 1 THE COURT: Okay. 2 RESPONDENT: On page 2 of the Petitioner's 3 pleading and on page 1 of my brief, UCCJEA Code, 4 Petitioner's counsel left out a very important part of 5 the UCCJEA Code which states the definition of a home 6 state regarding newborn children provides in the case 7 of a child less than six months of age, term home 8 state means the state in which the child lived from 9 birth with any of the persons mentioned. That is Utah 10 code and --11 Hang on. Need to go slow. THE COURT: 12 RESPONDENT: Sorry. 13 You have a dispute with the THE COURT: 14 accuracy of the briefing on their page 2? 15 RESPONDENT: Correct. 16 THE COURT: All right. And then you have --17 you said your brief page 1 is accurate? 18 RESPONDENT: It includes the whole thing 19 where hers leaves out the most important part which 2.0 states what a home state means to a child less than 21 six months of age. 22 THE COURT: All right. 23 RESPONDENT: Like me to continue? 24 THE COURT: What else would you like to say? 25

RESPONDENT: And states Utah Code and Colorado statute at the time says state in which the child lived from birth as the home state.

THE COURT: Okay. What else?

RESPONDENT: Then I would also like to dispute the fact that I -- in their briefing on page -- page 7 they are claiming that I accepted 2250 from the father he voluntarily paid. I have letters to prove exactly how much money it was, and I received 1500, which is less than the -- less than half of the \$3500 I have paid in increased medical insurance due to just being pregnant.

THE COURT: So you're saying you received only 1500?

RESPONDENT: Correct.

THE COURT: In money from Mr. Manzanares?

RESPONDENT: Correct. Which is less than half of the 35.00 I paid. I do have letters to support that. And also I'd like to dispute the purjury they say an adoption agency gave me a large amount of money. Your Honor, I have never -- I never contacted an adoption agency to fill out paperwork to look at the families let alone to even accept any money. I did not work with an adoption agency.

And this is just another thing I'd like to

bring up that along with the defaming of my character of needing a psychological or psychiatric evaluation, I think it is very obvious to the Court for me to appear alone is pretty competent on my part and that I do not need a psychological evaluation.

And just like the Court to note that in all of the petitions I have filed or responses I have filed with the court, not once do I defame the Petitioner's character. Not once do I come up with and construe the truth. I stick to just straight facts, and I do not feel the need to attack his character because that's not what this is. All along, Your Honor, I have wanted what is best for the child.

And I just want to note, if you have one person who is attacking the other person, clearly trying to co-parent would not be in the best interests of the child. Also, Your Honor, I would like to --

THE COURT: Let me just ask, you had stated then, just so I understand what is going on, you said you never contacted an adoption agency; is that correct?

RESPONDENT: That's correct, Your Honor.

There is -- there is a family service center that is along with my church I contacted for counseling, and they in that family service center have an adoption

agency. Yes, I did ask the counselor I was seeking counseling for. I just saw him three times just because it was a big blow I was pregnant and just a little bit of things I just needed to talk about, and I did ask them questions just about the adoption process, but that is as far as it went, Your Honorg. I did not proceed any further. I did not fill out any paperwork. I did not do anything with that side of the family service center.

THE COURT: All right. So you -- I guess my question was, if you did not contact an adoption agency and perhaps you're in the process of answering that.

RESPONDENT: Yes, just getting to that.

THE COURT: What did you do?

Honor. I went through friends of family, and I do have -- it states in -- in my memorandum I gave to the Court yesterday and in a letter that I submitted from Larry Jenkins, who -- who is the person who helped me with the adoption proceedings in Utah, that there is adoption proceedings and temporary custody that was already issued as of 8:45 a.m., February 20. I do have copies of that if you would like that.

THE COURT: Copies -- certainly.

Okay. Should I give one to the RESPONDENT: 1 Guardian Ad Litem as well? 2 That would be wonderful. THE COURT: 3 RESPONDENT: Then I would also like, Your 4 Honor --5 Hang on -- hold on. Let me just THE COURT: 6 read this. All right. Thank you. 7 RESPONDENT: Then there's just two more 8 things I wanted to address. The summons, Your Honor, 9 on February 1, I did receive the paternity petition. 10 Hang on -- on February 1 is when THE COURT: 11 you received the paternity petition? 12 RESPONDENT: Yes, Your Honor, that is 13 correct. 14 THE COURT: All right. 15 RESPONDENT: And what I received, Your 16 Honor, was a paternity petition. 17 THE COURT: Yes. 18 RESPONDENT: A case information sheet. 19 THE COURT: Okay. 20 RESPONDENT: And admission of paternity for 21 the Petitioner. Your Honor, I never did receive a 22 summons for the February 20 hearing, and I have a copy 23 of the return of service from the person who signed 24 it, and it says on here exactly what he delivered to 25

me, and a summons nor a waiver of service is listed on here, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I see.

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RESPONDENT: Would you like a copy of that?

THE COURT: Certainly.

RESPONDENT: On page 2.

THE COURT: Thank you. And just so parties are aware what I have -- are two pages. First page is an e-mail from Emily Berkeley to Carie Terry dated February 7, 2008, subject matter correspondence and pleading, and second is the return of service, which is a copy of a return of service. Original was filed with the court. All right. Thank you.

RESPONDENT: Then -- then, Your Honor, I believe what counsel is referring to that I was summoned, she did send me an e-mail on February 7 that says and I quote, we -- we request that if you agree that Rob is the baby's biological father, you sign this document -- it was an attachment to the e-mail, Your Honor -- in front of a notary and return the original to our office by February 13. If you do so, it may alleviate the need to go to hearing on February 20. Your Honor, there was no time, there was no place, there was no this is a hearing you are summoned to, Your Honor.

I did print off from the judicial web site 1 the legal way to summon someone, and, Your Honor, it 2 3 does say in here that I do have to be served with a summons and original waiver of service and that I must 4 sign that original waiver of service, and it must be 5 served to me by a sheriff's department or a deputy, 6 and I do have a copy of that e-mail and also what I 7 found on the court judicial web site how to legally 8 file a hearing, if you would like a copy of that, Your 9 Honor? 10 THE COURT: Certainly. Is this all you had, 11 12 ma'am? RESPONDENT: That is it, Your Honor. 13 just -- I just ask the Court to request the Petitioner 14 and his counselor to apologize for defaming my 15 character in every one of these petitions. 16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 17 MS. BERKELEY: Your Honor, can I respond to 18 19 that at some point later? THE COURT: Perhaps. 20 MS. BERKELEY: Okay. 21 THE COURT: The next -- I did have a 22 question on the paperwork. Is there any type of a 23 case number in Utah? 24 There is not, Your Honor. Ι RESPONDENT: 25

went -- I went right before the Supreme Third District 1 2 Court judge, and he's the one that signed that and 3 there was no need. THE COURT: All right. So I quess -- well, 4 5 let me just ask the -- do you have any -- well, do you 6 know where the child is? 7 RESPONDENT: Your Honor, since I signed that 8 on February 20, I do not have -- privy to that information. 9 10 THE COURT: And do you know if any type of 11 adoption has been filed? 12 RESPONDENT: They mentioned to me they were 13 going to file that day, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: All right. So you believe an 15 adoption was filed that date, but do you have any 16 other information on that? 17 RESPONDENT: I do not, Your Honor. 18 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. All right. 19 Ms. Burgos, moving down the line to the next 20 individual. 21 MS. BURGOS: Your Honor, I was going to go 22 to the point I believe the Court has ruled regarding 23 paternity at this point in time that father -- and 24 judgment enters today that father will be placed on

the birth certificate and that he is the father.

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Basing my recommendations at this point on that ruling, I'm requesting that mother give us today as much information as possible. I know the Court has asked if she knows if an adoption has been finalized or what is going on. She -- I believe she stated it was through friends or family. I'm not sure if she is aware if there's anyone in Utah who can provide information as far as the child is concerned as to well-being or where the child was born so we can at least get information as to her health.

I am in agreement that a custody order issue as soon as possible that can be filed in the appropriate court in Utah with the judge who signed these proceedings so we can move forward as soon as possible. This is a very young child, and at this point in time if there's going to be any parental bonding or anything of that nature, we need to move quickly.

It's my understanding from father and his attorney they have obtained counsel and have started all the requirements as to what is necessary to get everything going in Utah.

THE COURT: Thank you. All right. Let me just ask, and I'll just do what I would normally do, which is just when a Guardian Ad Litem asks questions,

I just go down the line, so let me just ask you, ma'am, on your side of this, do you have any information that you can provide to the Guardian Ad Litem about the condition of the child or anything like that? Asking parent — this side first. I'll ask everybody the same question. Everybody is treated equally.

MS. BERKELEY: No. Only information we have her attorney in Utah works exclusively for two adoption agencies called Adoption Center of Choice, which is funny enough the same agency in the Osborne case in Utah, and Act of Love. Larry Jenkins does so unless he did something special and different. Our attorney in Utah under -- upon information and belief believes he would have that information through one of those two adoption agencies.

THE COURT: I see. So answer to my question then at least as to you is no?

MS. BERKELEY: No.

THE COURT: All right. Moving to the next side, do you have any information that you can help the Guardian Ad Litem?

RESPONDENT: Your Honor, I can tell you that I was not induced. The girl did come on premature labor, and I can tell you that it was not long after I

read a few e-mails counsel had sent me. I had mentioned to them earlier in a petition I had submitted that the stress they were causing me through constantly sending e-mails and, you know, and trying to get me on the phone and voice mails was causing me a lot of undue stress, Your Honor, and I did go into premature labor four weeks early on my own. I was not induced at all.

And I can say that -- that the -- the

And I can say that -- that the -- the friends of family were the ones who took the girl, and I know that she's probably in the very upmost best care possible. Other than that, I do not have any more information.

THE COURT: Did you end up giving -- given the fact this came so suddenly, were you able to get to the hospital?

RESPONDENT: I was luckily I was at my mother's office of work and she was -- she was very close to a hospital and did come on suddenly.

THE COURT: Do you recall the name of the hospital?

RESPONDENT: Pioneer.

THE COURT: Pioneer Hospital?

RESPONDENT: Uh-huh.

THE COURT: Is that -- hardly know anything

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in Denver let alone outside, do you know where that perhaps might be?

RESPONDENT: You know, Your Honor, I know like Denver, Salt Lake. I don't know what side, city, suburb city it is, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

RESPONDENT: At this time, Your Honor, could I ask a question?

THE COURT: Certainly.

RESPONDENT: According to -- now and maybe you explained and I apologize if I don't quite understand how it is that, you know, Colorado can rule jurisdiction when it states that the home state of a child is where it resides from birth?

THE COURT: Well, and that's a question and certainly a fair question, and I have issued a ruling, and I made my ruling, and I don't get to help either side. All I can do is say I made my ruling, and all I can say on those types of issues is whether I have made the correct ruling is a matter that ultimately is probably not decided by me. All right.

MS. BURGOS: Your Honor, if I may? I just wanted to inquire if the baby was born healthy, mother give us any of those -- any of that data so that we have that information at least to begin with regarding

the status of the child when she was born.

THE COURT: If you're able to.

RESPONDENT: Obviously with a child that is born four weeks early, you are going to have lung development issues, Your Honor, and it is very typical especially in children up to full term to be on oxygen, but the child was only on oxygen for a day or two and then was released.

THE COURT: Thank you. All right. Let me do this, there are obviously some outstanding issues in the case. What I would like to do at this time is to take a recess in the matter, give the parties a chance to visit with each other if they would like to. This would also give I guess Petitioner a chance to contact whatever people they might like to contact who may not be here and perhaps have a conversation with them including of course the person you may have mentioned to me in terms of precisely what is the next step that the Petitioner is asking for.

And then I also obviously want to hear the next step that the Petitioner -- Respondent is asking for in the clearest possible terms and what the next step would be from the Guardian Ad Litem in the clearest possible terms and then I can reconvene. It is now approximately 2:30. My intention would be to

reconvene this at approximately 3:00.

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If we need to have any other individuals on the line, we can do that, and then we can discuss what forms of order, if any, need to be prepared so those forms of order, if any, can be signed. Court will be in recess at this time.

(A recess was taken from 2:35 to 3:15 p.m.)

THE COURT: Back on the record in 2008JV141. Parties previously entered their appearances and are still here. I have taken a recess to allow the parties to have a chance to speak and to see how they wanted to move forward following the ruling that was issued a short time ago on paternity, so let me just ask counsel for the Petitioner what we have in mind?

MS. BERKELEY: Your Honor, we -- we actually haven't spent time with Ms. Terry. She spoke with the GAL instead. She left after you left the courtroom, so I know what we have in mind. I know what Utah would require. I did speak to counsel in Utah, and I wrote it out right here if you'd like to see this or just tell you.

THE COURT: Whatever you would like to do.

MS. BERKELEY: Well, I will just tell you the attorney in Utah said basically that the Court -- the legal system in Utah simply needs an order stating

what they already -- there is subject matter
jurisdiction over the child and over the parents in
Colorado; that or -- sorry, subject matter
jurisdiction over the parties, Colorado is the home
state of the child, Utah is not the proper
jurisdiction for this matter.

Furthermore, what you said previously that the Court finds Petitioner is the father of the parties' minor child, a daughter born on the 17th of February '08; that the Petitioner's name shall be listed as the father on the child's birth certificate.

THE COURT: Hold on. Go ahead. Number one, you had the home state. What was before that?

MS. BERKELEY: Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the parties.

THE COURT: Okay.

MS. BERKELEY: That the Petitioner father -- you got that one?

THE COURT: Yes.

MS. BERKELEY: Name shall be listed on the birth certificate; that the father -- and if this doesn't happen, basically be in limbo -- the father is granted sole legal and physical custody of the parties' daughter; that the mother and her attorney shall disclose the whereabouts of the child and child

must be relinquished to the father. That a warrant --

THE COURT: Hang on.

MS. BERKELEY: Okay. Sorry.

THE COURT: Sole legal and physical custody.

MS. BERKELEY: And child must be relinquished to the father.

THE COURT: All right. What else?

MS. BERKELEY: That under Colorado law a warrant in Colorado and Utah warrant be issued authorizing law enforcement to take physical custody of the child, and I found a couple of statutes if that helps you in Colorado.

THE COURT: Okay.

MS. BERKELEY: The statutes I found were under the UCCJEA, 14-13-102 subsection 16 defines the word warrant and then 14-13-311 discussing a warrant and basically says -- although it says there is risk of the child will be removed from the state, which already happened, says imminently likely to suffer serious physical harm, which we believe is happening because of the bonding situation, and/or be removed from this state, and that's already happened so --

THE COURT: Okay.

MS. BERKELEY: Then finally that Petitioner father has immediate right -- called a pickup order in

Utah and has immediate right to pick up the parties' daughter and take her in his physical custody. Thank you.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. Thank you. Let me just look here. Where was the definition?

MS. BERKELEY: Warrant, it's 14 --

THE COURT: No, sorry. Okay. Some questions but all right. Thank you. The Respondent mother?

RESPONDENT: Your Honor, I did call and talk to my lawyer in Utah, and he said there is a case number for the adoption proceedings, but I do not know what it is. And he also said that the Utah courts will not honor orders from outside courts — out-of-state courts in dealing with an adoption proceeding. He has covered multi state, national adoption cases for over 25 years. Actually has also written proceedings and statutes that have become law for Utah.

And he said that Utah courts will uphold their strict laws, which I stated in my brief, and he said that the Petitioner is welcome to bring his case there and that the family -- adoptive family and I are ready to dispute that in Utah.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. From the

Guardian Ad Litem?

MS. BURGOS: Your Honor, I'm in agreement with the requests being made by the father of the child on today's date. I believe it's appropriate that father be granted sole legal and physical custody of the minor child and the Court order the child be brought back to the state of Colorado, which this Court has made very clear is the home state and this Court has jurisdiction over.

THE COURT: All right. Well, you know, that's the issue that I had my concern about, and the Uniform Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act does contemplate -- let me just look here -- I had it here earlier -- look at 14-13-110 says a court of this state meaning Colorado may communicate with a court in another state concerning a proceeding arising under the Uniform Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement ACT.

And what I'm trying to avoid is basically competing orders as much as possible, and, for example, for lack of a better way of putting it, calling it a pickup order that may end up with a police officer who's got an order from one jurisdiction and an order from another and standing there saying what do I do. So that's why I suggested

you might want to have a conversation and find out what the court is in Utah and is involved in all of this and then what you want to do about it, so if you -- it's getting to be sort of late in the day for courts in Utah and I imagine --

MS. BURGOS: Your Honor, I don't know if there's any way if mother has spoken to her lawyer we can get a case number. I don't think there's any way of being able to figure out where we go from here if we do not have a case number. If her attorney is aware of that and mother has access to that, I'm asking that be provided so that therefore we know which court, where to call, and where we need to go from here.

MS. BERKELEY: Your Honor, can I just say again there's no custody proceeding in Utah. There isn't. They have to file a custody proceeding. An adoption proceeding under the UCCJEA is not a custody proceeding. What exactly mother said on the second page of her memo. There is no custody proceeding. So they were to file one in Utah, you already assumed jurisdiction. There wouldn't be adoption proceedings.

Basically there have been -- parents -- adoptive parents have to get the child and right now then have to file a custody proceeding because some

dispute at that point. So I don't think -- I don't think a big issue, and I'm prepared to also argue home state, if you would like, but I think already found that, but there's nothing to call -- there's no one to call under this.

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RESPONDENT: Your Honor, there are custody and adoption proceedings that took place on February 20, so they did file with the court on February 20. They are and have taken place. And to just -- yeah,

THE COURT: All right. Yes, ma'am?

MS. BERKELEY: I'm looking at the documents filed on February 20 and all have to do with adoption it seems. Yeah, all adoption -- all adoption pleadings.

RESPONDENT: That's -- excuse me, Your
Honor. That's my consent. My lawyer confirmed they
did file custody and adoption proceedings that day. I
don't have copies of that. Again I relinquished my
rights so I don't have copies of their temporary
custody orders or adoption proceedings, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay.

on February 20 they did take place.

MS. BERKELEY: And lastly, Your Honor, I'm sorry, but our attorney in Utah spoke with Mr. Jenkins and her attorney --

THE COURT: Who is that?

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MS. BERKELEY: Her attorney in Utah is Mr. Jen- -- Larry Jenkins.

THE COURT: I'm sorry.

MS. BERKELEY: Our attorney in Utah is Dale Dorius and Dale M. Dorius called -- he's been doing this for 40 years -- called her attorney and found out, A., it's an open adoption through a family friend just as she stated; B., almost definitely knows of the parents and location of the child; and C., as far as he knows adoption proceedings were -- were initiated but no custody proceedings because custody is not in dispute. That's when I talked to him. That's his understanding.

THE COURT: All right. Well, thank you.

Well, then why don't you do this, I will go ahead and recess the proceedings, and if you want to prepare a form of order for me to look at, I'll go ahead and look at it, and if it appears appropriate, I can enter the order, and if it doesn't appear appropriate, I won't, but I'll just need a form of order.

MS. BERKELEY: Okay. Thank you. How long will you be recessing?

THE COURT: Well, as soon as you get a proposed form of order for me to look at and consider.

MS. BERKELEY: I can add a couple of things 1 2 to this. I think it ought to at least be THE COURT: 3 4 typed. 5 MS. BERKELEY: Well, my office is ten 6 minutes away by foot. THE COURT: I'm not going anywhere, so I can 7 reconvene at -- you just submit the -- Clerk's Office 8 here closes at four; however, you can submit a form --9 my office will remain open -- and you can submit a 10 form of order, and I can look at it, and if it appears 11 appropriate, execute it. If not, I can reconvene and 12 notify the parties why it might not be. 13 MS. BERKELEY: Okay. I will try to find 14 something in this courthouse I can use first. 15 When do you want me to come back -- by 4:30? 16 THE COURT: 5:00. I'm not leaving. 17 18 here. MS. BERKELEY: I guess question is then 19 depending on if signed order or not, if we got a 20 certified copy, then I can just provide it to Mr. 21 Manzanares at that point, right, and that would be it? 22 THE COURT: I think that's correct. 23 MS. BERKELEY: All right. Thank you. I'll 24 be back shortly. 25

MS. BURGOS: Court wish we also stay or can 1 we be available by phone, if necessary, to come back? 2 I know mother has to pick up a child from school, and 3 I know why she's right now nervous wants to make sure 4 she gets there to pick up her daughter. 5 THE COURT: Well, parties are free to go or 6 7 stay. RESPONDENT: Order she submits could I 8 request I get a copy of that as well? 9 THE COURT: Absolutely. 10 RESPONDENT: Since going to my lawyer in 11 12 Utah. THE COURT: Absolutely. 13 RESPONDENT: Perfect. 14 MS. BERKELEY: I will provide one to you and 15 your lawyer immediately -- fax and e-mail then, and I 16 have your e-mail, okay to e-mail it to you? 17 RESPONDENT: That's fine. 18 THE COURT: Is that satisfactory? 19 RESPONDENT: Great. 20 Thank you. THE COURT: All right. 21 will look to receive that by approximately five p.m. 22 and look at it and consider it and see if it's --23 THE CLERK: Possibly clear another date 24 while we have parties? 25

THE COURT: Another date for what? 1 THE CLERK: I don't know if we need one. 2 3 MS. BERKELEY: Probably do need to set another one and thought we could get mom under oath 4 5 and tell us where the child is while we're here. Someone want to present any THE COURT: 6 evidence? 7 MS. BURGOS: Ms. Terry --8 THE COURT: I didn't realize that. 9 MS. BURGOS: I think, Your Honor, parties 10 were inquiring as to where the baby was. If the Court 11 12 could just swear her in and just ask her that question that she understands what's at risk here. It's my 13 understanding from father's attorney that she was told 14 mother knows where the child is. 15 THE COURT: Asking to take some evidence? 16 MS. BURGOS: That is the only question I 17 18 wanted to ask if mother --CARIE TERRY, 19 Called as a witness on behalf of the Guardian Ad 20 Litem, having been first duly sworn, testified as 21 22 follows: THE COURT: You may inquire of the witness. 23 24

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1	DIRECT EXAMINATION
2	BY MS. BURGOS:
3	Q Ms. Terry, was this an open adoption in the
4	state of Utah?
5	A It was.
6	Q And as an open adoption, were you given
7	information who was adopting your child?
8	A I was.
9	Q And who adopted your child?
10	A Scott Scott and Julissa Byington.
11	Q Say their names and spell their last name,
12	please.
13	A Scott, S-C-O-T-T, and Julissa,
14	J-U-L-I-S-S-A, Byington, B-Y-I-N-G-T-O-N.
15	Q Do you have a current address or phone
16	number?
17	A I do not have their address.
18	Q Do you know where they live?
19	A Salt Lake.
20	Q Did you have the opportunity to meet with
21	Scott and Julissa Byington?
22	A Yes.
23	Q And an open adoption were you provided with
24	a phone number or contact in order to have information
25	regarding your daughter?

I do have a phone number. Α 1 What is that phone number? 2 0 I don't know it by heart. It's in my phone. 3 Α Cell phone you have with you? 4 0 5 Α Yes. If you could please look at your cell phone 0 6 and provide that information. 7 Your Honor, may I say something RESPONDENT: 8 after I'm done answering questions? 9 THE COURT: Certainly. 10 RESPONDENT: Great. Thank you. 11 801-830-6668. Α 12 When was the last time you Q (By Ms. Burgos) 13 received any information on your daughter? 14 Last week. 15 Α What was that information that you received? 16 . 0 She's healthy. 17 Α MS. BURGOS: Thank you, Ms. Terry. 18 Honor, what I would ask is that the information that 19 was provided today by Ms. Terry that the family 20 members understand that is not information they can 21 use to call or --22 RESPONDENT: What I would mention, they 23 already have and harassed them. 24 MS. BURGOS: If I can finish. 25

RESPONDENT: Sorry. 1 If the family understands no MS. BURGOS: 2 one can call them; that everything has to be handled 3 in a professional manner by the attorneys and any 4 5 professionals that are working on this case and for people not to call this family. 6 THE COURT: I don't really -- counsel, would you stipulate to that? 8 MS. BERKELEY: Yeah, Your Honor, we do 9 stipulate to that. Mr. Manzanares did call her 10 brother at one point last week because he found out 11 the baby was born. He just called to say do you know 12 where the baby is. This is the first we found out he 13 has the baby and, yes, won't call him directly. 14 15 law enforcement or you guys do that. THE COURT: All right. 16 RESPONDENT: Your Honor, they called 17 everyone in my family. 18 THE COURT: Okay. 19 RESPONDENT: And was harassing them. 20 They said they won't do that. THE COURT: 21 Okay., RESPONDENT: 22 MS. BURGOS: No further questions. 23 THE COURT: All right. So with that that 24 will conclude this proceeding. 25

MS. BURGOS: Thank you.

THE COURT: Anything else I missed? Thank you.

(A recess was taken from 3:35 to 5:10 p.m.)

THE COURT: All right. We're back on the record in 2008JV0141. If the parties that are here could enter their appearances, please.

MS. BERKELEY: Thank you, Your Honor. Emily

A. Berkeley, Reg. 36240, attorney for the Petitioner,

Robert Manzanares who is here beside me.

THE COURT: All right. When we recessed an hour or so ago, Ms. Terry the Respondent mother was here. She informed the Court she needed to leave. She was picking up her daughter and that she did know this proceeding may be coming back and you would be presenting me with an order, and I believe I said something to the effect I would look at the order and consider that; that she was obviously free to be here or not. As a civil proceeding, she is obviously not required to be here. The Guardian Ad Litem is not here as well and for similar reasons.

Let me just tell you what I have been able to accomplish since the last recess. Because there have been issues that have been possibly raised under the Uniform Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement

Act, that Act requires courts from different states to consult with each other, and when you may consult with each other does not need to be on the record if you are just trying to locate basic information such as schedule, calendars, court records, and so on.

information. There is a case in Utah that apparently has been filed in the Third Judicial District for Salt Lake County, case number is 082900089, and it is in the division or may be in the division of a Judge Robert K. Hilder, last name spelled H-I-L-D-E-R. The Court has not spoken with Judge Hilder. A representative from this court has spoken with his law clerk whose name is Mark Paradise, P-A-R-A-D-I-S-E, and his phone number is 801-238-7377, so I wanted to update the parties on that.

Now with respect to the order that has been presented to me as a -- and it is styled as a proposed custody order and it is based on the information that, counsel, you said you wanted at -- you were going to prepare an order -- form of order for me to look at it, I said I would look at it and consider it and said all the things you would put in the form of order and indeed they are here.

I do note we have confirmed that there is a

case in Utah and that an order of temporary custody has apparently issued in Utah. I have further noted, and I believe, counsel, you stated this to me, and I have certainly noted that the Uniform Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act does not apply to adoption proceedings.

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And although I don't have any direct knowledge that there is an adoption proceeding in Utah, there has certainly been offers of proof made to me there is an adoption proceeding going on in Utah. The issues that I determined here today in this court really related to the issue of paternity and that was an issue that really could be decided almost on sort of a summary judgment type basis because there really hasn't been any dispute as to paternity. Everyone has agreed to that.

If I was treating this as any sort of normal type of paternity action, which I think I'm required to do, the additional orders that you are requesting that I enter here -- in particular any order granting sole legal and physical custody to the father at this time, that the child would need to be relinquished to the father.

I mean I have to make those determinations really under the Colorado generally speaking best

interests standards and so on, and I really -- I mean we haven't had any testimony or evidence on that.

Obviously I can infer what you might argue to me, which is that it is in the best interests because the mother took the child to Utah or gave birth to the child in Utah and left it there with someone else so that custody should come to the father, but I don't have any -- we just haven't had any testimony on that or evidence.

In terms of warrants and so on, you know, a Colorado court issuing a warrant for a child to be taken into custody when the child is not in the state I think is problematic at best.

Then the issue of home state -- there is an issue what is called home state, and you wanted to offer some argument on home state at the appropriate time. I'm pleased to hear that, but given the fact that the Uniform Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act doesn't apply in adoption proceedings, what I say the home state is wouldn't necessarily apply in an adoption proceeding. And I don't necessarily know what the adoption laws are of Utah. That would certainly not be my place to know that; although, my understanding they have been in flux and may have changed even recently as like the first of

February or something.

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So bottom line is, I don't believe I can sign this order as is proposed at this time. I can certainly sign an order related to the paternity issues that I have determined, and I'm pleased to do that. And quite frankly, then if I signed this order as proposed today, the effectiveness of this order I think would be somewhat doubtful.

I'm happy to set this for further hearing and argument and evidence as you would like. You had referenced earlier that you would want to be able to have the attorney from Utah on the line, and we have a speaker phone and that would be fine. Again the issues that I have determined are paternity. I don't think that I have determined much more than that.

MS. BERKELEY: Can I speak?

 $$\operatorname{\mathtt{THE}}$  COURT: Certainly be pleased to hear whatever you'd like to say.

MS. BERKELEY: Well, Your Honor, the thing is that, first of all, do you know when the custody case in Utah was filed? Had to be after the birth. Had to be -- right -- we filed our case -- custody matter in Colorado first and you found you have subject matter jurisdiction over the parents and you did find that Colorado is the home state of the child.

THE COURT: Actually didn't say those words in my order. My order determined paternity, and I -- and again even if I had found -- I have it here somewhere -- I said subject matter jurisdiction is here in terms of -- I put it in the office.

MS. BERKELEY: Your Honor, I talked to the Guardian Ad Litem and we both asked you to confirm and you did confirm that Colorado -- whether or not helpful on an adoption proceeding, isn't a custody proceeding, you did confirm that it was the home -- Colorado is the home state.

THE COURT: Well, and, you know, as I said even -- even if that has occurred and we can talk about that, but the main issues that I have determined really are paternity, and as I say, I'm certainly free to hear further argument and evidence as necessary. You did in your petition ask for allocation of parental responsibilities and so on and orders to enter with respect to that, and I'm happy to proceed with that in the normal course.

But again what effect that would have in another jurisdiction, I don't know, but that is to be determined in another jurisdiction, and the fact there is an adoption proceeding in another jurisdiction words home state under the Child-custody and

Enforcement provisions, I don't know if that would apply in another jurisdiction, but I think you would have to take that up out there, so I'm pleased to keep going with this and don't think I'm not, but I -- the issues I have determined are paternity.

MS. BERKELEY: So you're not -- I guess I got confused because when we talked before I left, I understand and from the Guardian Ad Litem we all understood that you at least had the authority to issue some temporary emergency custody under 14-13-204 perhaps, and I just can't see why that wouldn't -- the adoption proceeding was entered into when this court had jurisdiction over this matter so I mean.

THE COURT: Well, that may be the issue that we would need to consult on with the Utah court if that comes up when there's consultation because the way the Uniform Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act is written, if this was a child custody matter and it was filed first, maybe based on consultation then Utah will yield to that and that would be the purpose of some consultation, but I think that would have to be done through the consultation process that is here.

MS. BERKELEY: Well, actually I'm positive that you can enter a temporary emergency order and

then you have I believe 30 days to consult. I just went through the same similar situation -- not this dramatic with Judge Rice and basically in that -- that's in Arapahoe County District Court -- basically you can enter a temporary emergency order for the best interests of the child and then you have to consult within a certain amount of time. Might actually say reasonable anymore. Okay. Right. You can enter it and than you shall immediately consult.

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You can enter an order in the best interests of a child, which -- I mean under case law even <a href="Everett">Everett</a>, Wellbrink, under Allen, it's assumed fit and suitable parent is the biological father or the biological parents, and it's assumed it's in the best interests of the child under Allen that the child is with the biological parents, and I think this Court has to make an order regarding the best interests of the child under temporary -- under a temporary emergency order. I can't see how -- how that wouldn't be the case.

THE COURT: What is the statute that you're referring to?

MS. BERKELEY: Hold on. I'm now under 14-10-12- -- 129 -- 14-10-124, and it's --

THE COURT: Was this order with Judge Rice,

does that involve a child that was in another state?

MS. BERKELEY: Basically what happened is mom -- mom whisked the child out of Missouri into Colorado when there was a current order in Missouri and filed -- filed emergency -- emergency jurisdiction and also filed for emergency orders, and I think the Court has to hear that within seven days emergency custody, and what happened was the Court was supposed to confer immediately with Utah -- with Missouri and Judge Rice just didn't do it, and a month went by and more time went by and we filed and filed and finally found, oh, whoops, I did need to consult, and she did make emergency orders, and she just needed to consult with the other judge, but -- but the child was allowed to stay here for a little while.

And I just can't see how -- how we can't make an order in the best interests of the child -- I just don't understand how we couldn't. Oh, and attorney Dorius, I got his cell phone number. Did say Utah -- a Utah court -- Utah law enforcement, he believes -- he had a case out of North Carolina -- will give good faith and credit to whatever order you issue today, and if we can have further proceedings once the child is safe and secure, I would love it. I'm ready for those as well.

THE COURT: What about the circumstance where the Uniform Child-custody and Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act doesn't apply expressly to adoptions?

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MS. BERKELEY: Well, I mean how can this

Court say that mom can be under the jurisdiction of
this court, submit a response, submit a motion to
continue, show up here, and then -- then say but I can
go to Utah and initiate adoption proceedings and give
my child to my brother.

THE COURT: I didn't say she could do that. What I said, what I decided is paternity.

MS. BERKELEY: Well -- well, right, but we asked for emergency -- emergency orders as did the Guardian Ad Litem who also believes that in this case it's appropriate to do such emergency. She told me temporary emergency orders were appropriate and I could ask for sole physical and -- and whatever custody, but she thinks -- she thought probably this Court would find it appropriate it was on a temporary emergency basis until further proceedings can be held.

But according to Mr. Dorius once the child is here, they can object to the adoption, and at this point if the Court stays -- keeps jurisdiction, give us emergency orders at the very least.

THE COURT: What are you asking for in the

1 emergency order? 2 MS. BERKELEY: Well, let me look at the 3 language that the GAL gave me specifically. THE COURT: Give me --4 MS. BERKELEY: 5 Excuse me. 6 THE COURT: What is the statute again for 7 the emergency orders? I can't imagine how difficult this must be for the people that are here. 8 9 understand, and I wouldn't insult you by saying I do know how difficult it is. I can't imagine. 10 MS. BERKELEY: Okay. It's 14 -- now just 11 12 going by the seat of my pants so stand by. 13 THE COURT: That's --14 MS. BERKELEY: 14-10-124(1.5)(a). THE COURT: Let's take a look. 15 MS. BERKELEY: Wait a second. I think I 16 17 looked at the wrong one. Hold on. THE COURT: That is the Dissolution of 18 19 Marriage Act although that may have some application. 20 MS. BERKELEY: UDMA does apply to unmarried 21 parties in terms of child support and -- hold on one second. I don't know -- this is such a weird case --22 I don't know if this would be a modification of 23 24 parenting time since mom had the child -- I don't know if it would be a modification of parenting time 25

then definitely you could restrict her parenting time due to endangerment under 14-10-129 then under 14 --

THE COURT: Under temporary emergency jurisdiction of the Uniform Child-custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

MS. BERKELEY: 14-13-204.

THE COURT: Says a court of this state has temporary emergency jurisdiction if the child is present in this state and the child has been abandoned --

MS. BERKELEY: Or --

THE COURT: -- or it is necessary in an emergency to protect the child because the child, or a sibling or parent of the child, is subjected to or threatened with mistreatment or abuse.

MS. BERKELEY: Which I think there's a strong argument that's the case. Even if there was a previous child-custody determination, you can still make emergency orders. That's where you go to subsection (4) you have to immediately communicate with the -- the Utah court which you have done actually.

THE COURT: I have not communicated with the judge in the court. We have done nothing on the record. All we've done is find out a case number and

name and telephone number of a law clerk. 1 MS. BERKELEY: So I mean this judge is going 2 to call you back I assume or --3 THE COURT: I didn't leave a message. 4 just got that information. We did leave them my name. 5 MS. BERKELEY: If you made a temporary 6 emergency order today, you'd have to immediately call 7 the other judge again and say I did this and consult. 8 THE COURT: All right. Let me take a moment 9 to think about it. 10 MS. BERKELEY: I just don't see how the 11 Court can have jurisdiction over the matter when this 12 child is clearly in danger and not a suitable and fit 13 person and to not make an emergency order. 14 THE COURT: That is information I don't have 15 because I haven't had any evidence. I know the 16 child's been placed with someone in Utah. 17 MS. BERKELEY: But under Allen it is 18 presumed that interests and welfare of such children 19 are best served -- okay. Under -- called Allen v. 20 Huffman, 135 Colo. 1, 1957 case, the pinpoint is 7. 21 THE COURT: What is the Pacific cite? 2.2 MS. BERKELEY: 307 P.2d 802, and the 23 opinion -- pinpoint page number is 805, and basically 24 what it says is that the biological parent -- it is 25

presumed it's in the best interests and welfare of such children meaning the children of the biological parents they're best served when under the care and control of their biological parents. It is presumed under Colorado law that's the case, so unless she's given evidence otherwise, this Court has to presume Rob's the best fit parent.

2.2

Everett v.

Berry, and got copies of all these cases with me.

Another case Wellbrink v. Walden parent is presumed to be a fit and suitable person to have the custody of his children and if a parent is fit and suitable that parent has the prior right of custody of his children over any other person or the state.

In addition, it has to be -- only become -overcome by convincing evidence to the contrary,
which -- which Ms. Terry has not given us convincing
evidence to the contrary that he's not the fit and
proper person, he has to be ordered the child.

In addition, under <u>Allen</u> the case says these presumptions we just discussed are the -- are like the presumption of innocence in a criminal case ever present throughout the controversy until overcome by the most solid and substantial reasons established by plain and certain proofs.

THE COURT: 307 P.2d 802 was the other cite? 1 MS. BERKELEY: Everett is 252 P.2d 826 and 2 pinpoint is 829. And that's Everett. And then 3 Wellbrink says exact same thing. 4 THE COURT: 252 P.2d 826, 829? 5 MS. BERKELEY: That's Everett. 6 307, 802? THE COURT: 7 MS. BERKELEY: That's Allen and Wellbrink is 8 It's -- it says the same thing as a different case. 9 Everett says. I don't know if you want to see it as 10 well. 11 What is the cite? THE COURT: 12 It is 349 P.2d 697. MS. BERKELEY: 13 THE COURT: All right. Again how do you get 14 around the fact this order under the Uniform Child-15 custody and Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act does not 16 apply to adoption proceedings? 17 Because, for example, there's MS. BERKELEY: 18 custody of a child in Colorado, mom can't take the 19 child -- just an example, to Utah and put it up for 20 adoption. She can't do it. It doesn't matter it 21 doesn't apply to an adoption proceeding. What she has 22 done is totally illegal. Doesn't make any sense. 23 I know she's not here and she has a right to 24 be here, but if I can quickly talk to you about home

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state and why that is important or can I just tell you.

THE COURT: Just tell me about home state.

MS. BERKELEY: Well, fact she says Utah is now the home state would lead to an absurd result. First of all, the current action for paternity proceeding with respect to emergency or at least some sort of custody order, and because this Court has now retained subject matter jurisdiction, the Court has to apply 14-13-102(7), and that's the home state, you know, definition if the child lived in the state for six consecutive months before the custody proceeding was filed.

Well, you just found as did other Colorado courts and Supreme Court that in paternity proceedings and proceedings to end parental rights an unborn child -- you can have jurisdiction over an unborn child.

THE COURT: For purposes of paternity, yes.

MS. BERKELEY: Correct. So -- so it

doesn't -- home state -- let me go back. Paternity is
a custody proceeding under the UCCJEA under 14-13-202
I think it is. Yeah. And 201 -- hold on -- right,
201, I'm sorry. So -- so -- no, I'm so sorry. Got so
many things in my head.

THE COURT: I know -- I know these are 1 difficult issues and take your time. 2 MS. BERKELEY: I have thought about them a 3 lot. 4 THE COURT: I understand you have. 5 understand where it says except as otherwise provided. 6 Right. MS. BERKELEY: 7 THE COURT: Court of this state has 8 jurisdiction to make an initial child-custody 9 determination only if this state is the home state of 10 the child on the date of commencement of the 11 proceeding, or was the home state of the child within 12 six months before the commencement of the proceeding 13 and the child is absent from the state but a parent or 14 person acting as a parent continues to live in the 15 16 state. MS. BERKELEY: Correct. 17 THE COURT: You're saying the child need not 18 have been born for me to find this is the home state? 19 MS. BERKELEY: Correct. Correct. 20 absolutely think that because if Colorado law says 21 that, and it's not disputed, a paternity proceeding is 22 a custody proceeding. I can find that for -- did you

> I will take your word for it. THE COURT:

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see that in my brief?

MS. BERKELEY: A paternity proceeding is a custody proceeding under Colorado law, so a child -- if a custody proceeding has been filed which --

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THE COURT: All right. Let me try to just bring some closure to this and take -- retire and consider it but --

MS. BERKELEY: Let me just say this much. THE COURT: Go ahead.

MS. BERKELEY: I was just going to say this to me is the most -- is -- to say this is not the home state when we're talking about home state would be absurd because would mean -- because a paternity proceeding is a custody proceeding, an unborn child is subject to jurisdiction under a paternity proceeding, would mean basically fathers would have to file their case in Colorado, keep track of mom 24-7, and have prepared a petition to file in any state of the union because they have -- they would have to know whether mom was leaving the state and if left the state and file a petition in that state and in Utah you have 24 So would be absurd to say, you know, that would be a requirement of a father. That's not what the UCCJEA or Children's Code or anything else contemplated was a father to have to do that kind of thing. Doesn't make sense.

THE COURT: I understand. 1 2 MS. BERKELEY: So I think there's a conflict 3 and the law should be resolved to avoid an absurd 4 result, and if this Court needs to make new law or say this is an issue of first impression, this Court has a 5 6 right to do that, and I think in this case it's 7 absolutely mandatory this child be protected. 8 THE COURT: Thank you. Well, let me --9 again I will retire and think about this some more --10 let me look at your proposed order, and I'll be back. 11 MS. BERKELEY: Okay. 12 THE COURT: I know it's a tough issue for 13 everybody. 14 MS. BERKELEY: Yeah. 15 THE COURT: Thank you. 16 MS. BERKELEY: Want me to call Mr. Dorius, I 17 will because seems to think that a pickup order --18 pickup order will be honored in Utah if you want to 19 talk to him. 2.0 THE COURT: Is he available by speaker 21 phone? 22 MS. BERKELEY: Let me just see if I can even 23 get him on the phone. He's been practicing for 40

years so -- he said he would be available, but he

drives to and from Salt Lake City.

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1 THE COURT: We have a speaker phone so you 2 can call. MS. BERKELEY: Let me get his number. 3 4 THE COURT: All right. 5 MS. BERKELEY: Sorry. My phone -- I have it 6 off because we're in court. 7 THE COURT: I know I'm a glutton for 8 punishment on these matters. 9 MS. BERKELEY: I know. I thank you. 10 It's area code 435-720-2268. And then also try to 11 call his office if --12 (Calling Mr. Dorius.) 13 MS. BERKELEY: Dale, this is Emily Berkeley here in court with Judge Woods and the parties or 14 15 Mr. Manzanares only. Okay. Can you hear me? Are you 16 there? Dale, can you hear me? 17 (Calling Mr. Dorius.) 18 MS. BERKELEY: This is Emily. I'm here in 19 court with the judge and Rob and just wondering if we 20 can put you on speaker phone and you could talk to the Court. Can you hear me? Dale, can you get into an 21 22 area where you have a signal? I'm going to call back 23 in one second. Driving through a canyon, as I told 24 you, so I don't know -- try to get ahold of him when 25 you're thinking and bring the phone back?

1 THE COURT: Let me be in recess for a 2 moment. (A recess was taken from 5:43 to 5:45 p.m.) 3 MS. BERKELEY: Okay. Dale, here comes the 4 5 Honorable Judge Woods. Hello, sir. We're on the record THE COURT: 6 Counsel for the Petitioner father said you 7 wanted to make some kind of argument or could inform 8 the Court in terms of your position. 9 MR. DORIUS: Well, I think if the Court 10 would give us -- give the father temporary custody, we 11 could probably enforce that here in Utah. We may have 12 to go into the adoption proceeding and we appreciate 13 that, but the Utah court -- out-of-state orders --14 MS. BERKELEY: Even --15 MR. DORIUS: Don't give us temporary 16 custody, leaves us in limbo over here. 17 MS. BERKELEY: All right. 18 THE COURT: Now they had prepared an order 19 for me that is a pickup order that has warrants for 20 the arrest and so on, and I am most doubtful this 21 Court would have jurisdiction to do that. 22 MR. DORIUS: Well, that's probably true. 23 That's probably true. If we had a pickup order it 24 would help, but if Utah would honor it or not, I don't 25

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know where you don't have jurisdiction over the
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    adoptive parents or attorney over here.
                                              If we at
2
    least had a temporary order of custody out of your
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    court, then we could probably enforce that in court
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    over here.
               THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
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               MR. DORIUS: Did that help?
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               THE COURT: Yes, sir, thank you.
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               MR. DORIUS: Okay.
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               MS. BERKELEY: Thanks, Dale. I will call
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11
    you later.
               MR. DORIUS: Okay. Good-bye.
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               MS. BERKELEY:
                              Bye.
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               THE COURT: All right. Let me think about
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    it.
               (A recess was taken from 5:48 to 6:10 p.m.)
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               THE COURT: All right. First of all --
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    again this is back on the record, and we're going to
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    have to conclude it for today. This is an enormously
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    complex legal issue, and it's also I know enormously
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    difficult on the parties. I can issue the paternity
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    order. I have -- I'm certain I can do that.
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               The order on temporary emergency
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    jurisdiction, you're asking me to enter a temporary
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    order basically to have the child taken into custody,
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setting aside the issue of whether or not such an order would be recognized by another state particularly when there is -- this doesn't apply in adoption proceedings, setting that aside, this is what the statute says, it says, court of this state,

Colorado, has temporary emergency jurisdiction if the child is present in this state. Child is not present in the state. And the child has been abandoned or it is necessary in an emergency to protect the child because the child or a sibling or parent of the child is subjected to or threatened with mistreatment or abuse.

I don't have any evidence before me that the child is being threatened with mistreatment or abuse.

All I know is that the child has been placed apparently with a family in Utah. I have no evidence at this point to say that the child is being threatened with mistreatment or abuse.

I understand the father's argument and the presumptions that pertain that the father has the right to parent the child and so on. That's not what this is dealing with in terms of custody, so I'm willing to look at this situation again and advance it on the docket and let folks think about it, and if you can provide me with some more information, I will

certainly keep considering the cases that you have sent.

I'm pleased to sign the paternity order that I ruled on today, and I don't believe I can issue an order at this point for custody, and even if I could, as I said, it's most doubtful whether that order would be respected in the other jurisdiction.

MS. BERKELEY: Your Honor, can I ask a couple of questions?

THE COURT: Sure.

MS. BERKELEY: I got a couple of questions. First of all, did Your Honor read the part in the brief about the Osborne case in Utah? We brought up emergency jurisdiction only because I said -- I think you can issue -- I think you can issue sole physical custody not on an emergency basis because you have jurisdiction over the child. That's what I think.

Emergency thing just came up because I was giving you another option, but under the Utah case,

Osborne case, Utah law clearly says once father has pursued all rights in the home state, he can --

THE COURT: Are you referring to Utah Code Annotated -- turn to page 8 of your brief.

MS. BERKELEY: Uh-huh.

THE COURT: And indented paragraph there

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Utah Code Ann. 78-30-4.15 and it's 2002.

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MS. BERKELEY: Yeah, and I think same now. I looked it up. That is a quote from a case.

THE COURT: 78-30-4.15(4) where it says it allows an unmarried biological father who resides in another state to challenge the mother's placement of the child for adoption if he resided in another state with the mother and has, and I quote, complied with the most stringent and complete requirements of the state where the mother previously resided or was located in order to protect and preserve his parental interest and right in the child, and then cites to the statute again. Is that what you're relying?

MS. BERKELEY: Yes, correct.

THE COURT: Ma'am, that statute was repealed in 2006.

MS. BERKELEY: Oh. I just checked it. Are you sure? But -- oh, but I have something else for you. Supreme Court -- sorry, District Court in Utah in January 23 of 2008 upheld this case and I have it.

THE COURT: All right. Why don't you submit that to my clerk. I'll be happy to reconvene this on Monday if you want to submit the paternity order.

I'll look at it. I will sign the paternity order as I have discussed based on the matters I have shown you

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and --
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               MS. BERKELEY: You do retain jurisdiction?
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               THE COURT: Yes.
               MS. BERKELEY: Over this matter?
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                                  I'm retaining jurisdiction
               THE COURT: Yes.
 5
    over this matter. Issues I settled today were
 6
 7
    paternity.
               MS. BERKELEY:
                               Okay.
 8
                           That's the issue I settled
               THE COURT:
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10
    today.
               MS. BERKELEY: Taking back home state.
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               THE COURT: I have read my decision.
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    didn't say the word home state in my decision.
                                                     What I
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    decided was paternity. That's what I decided.
                                                     Just
14
    read the whole thing again, and we -- we've been
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    talking about the issue of home state. What I decided
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    was paternity. If you want to present further
17
    argument on home state, I'll look at it.
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               MS. BERKELEY: Okay. So I will give Kristin
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    that copy of that opinion I just got.
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               THE COURT: Thank you. Get you some time.
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               (The proceedings were concluded.)
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE The above and foregoing is a true and complete transcription of my stenotype notes taken in my capacity as Official Reporter of Division 2, Juvenile Court, Denver County, Colorado, at the time and place above set forth. Dated at Denver, Colorado, this 274h day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2008.