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5 Guardian Ad Litem for Minor

LINDSEY McWILLIAMS
Humboldt County Clerk
JUL 17 1995
DEPUTY

6 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

7
8 In the Matter of

No. 91FL0912

9 PLAINTIFF: Vickey Schatz

10 **GUARDIAN AD LITEM'S**
11 **REPORT AND**
12 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

13 DEFENDANT: Rudolf Eric Schatz

DATE: July 17, 1995
DEPT: Two
TIME: 8:30 a.m.

14 **Persons Contacted for this Report**

15 Vickey Schatz, Petitioner

Office Interview

16 R. Eric Schatz, Respondent

Office Interview

17 Meredith Lee Schatz, DOB 12/25/80

Office Interview

18 Marti Ann Schatz, DOB 2/2/83

Office Interview

19 Eric Thomas Schatz, DOB 6/17/84

Office Interview

20 Kim Cobine, Assistant Principal, Zane Jr. High

Telephone Interview

21 Cynthia VanVleck, Principal, South Bay Elem

Telephone Interview

22 Eileen Klima, School Counselor, South Bay

Telephone Interview

23 Marcella Olsen, MFCC, Family Therapist

Telephone Interview

24 Lonnie Wilhoite, Mother's Reference

Telephone Interview

25 Debbie McNew, Mother's Reference

Telephone Interview

26 Paula Jo Exline, Mother's Reference

Telephone Interview

1 Meredith Biasca, Father's Reference

Telephone Interview

2 Chun Watts, Father's Reference

Telephone Interview

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4 **Interview with Vickey Schatz**

5 Ms. Schatz informed GAL she and Mr. Schatz had been separated since February 1994.
6 She said they had been together on and off every two years for nineteen years. She said the
7 divorce was final November 2, 1994. According to Ms. Schatz, Mr. Schatz had been abusive to
8 her throughout their relationship and she was relieved once the relationship was finally over. She
9 said she was the one who filed for divorce.

10 Ms. Schatz believed she had been flexible with visitation for a long time. She said the
11 agreement was that the children would come and go as they pleased and as she and Mr. Schatz
12 saw fit. She recalled this went along smoothly until she got a boyfriend. She believes the
13 visitation agreement has deteriorated since then.

14 Ms. Schatz told GAL Mr. Schatz fractured the hyoid bone in her throat in November
15 1992. She said he was arrested for this and ordered to attend the Family Violence Program at
16 Humboldt Family Service Center. She believes he successfully completed this program. She
17 recalled being in a shelter with the children in 1986 or 1987 through Humboldt Women for
18 Shelter. Ms. Schatz had presented with a split lip at the District Attorney's Office around
19 Christmas time. She had a police escort to the shelter. She saw Joan Wood, MFCC, who was at
20 Humboldt Family Service Center at that time. She also saw Cindy Siemans there for a short
21 time. She now sees Gay Knudsen. She and her children attend counseling together at Catholic
22 Charities where they see Marcelle Olsen.

23 Ms. Schatz informed GAL that Marti's teacher had said Marti was "at risk." She also
24 stated the school psychologist, Eileen Klima, had frightened her when she insinuated she believed
25 Marti had been sexually abused. She said Marti's teacher,
26 Ms. Sorter, "leaned heavily" toward sexual abuse. When Ms. Schatz requested she write this
27 down Ms. Sorter refused. She went on to say the school psychologist told her she believed Marti
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1 was very angry. This psychologist did not think Marti was necessarily at risk, but she thought
2 Marti could benefit from some counseling. She also believed family therapy would help resolve
3 the issues.

4 Ms. Schatz stated Marti dropped out of the "Thinkers Unlimited" program at school. This
5 program requires the student leave the regularly scheduled classes to participate. Ms. Schatz said
6 Marti has been called a "geek" and a "pumpkin head" due to her attendance in this program.
7 Marti just desires to be a normal kid. She had been suspended from school recently when she
8 stayed up late with two close friends while on a school camp out at Wolf Creek. When Marti was
9 denied access to the school telephone by the school secretary, she called the secretary a "butt
10 hole." Ms. Schatz believes this school situation has been blown out of proportion. She has not
11 seen this behavior at home.

12 Ms. Schatz stated Meredith refused to continue visiting with her father after she and her
13 father had a physical confrontation at the Bayshore Mall. She stated this incident (please refer to
14 interview with Meredith Schatz) was witnessed by Marti and Eric Thomas, also. All the children
15 remember hearing their father abuse Ms. Schatz in the past, but Meredith remembers more
16 because she is older. She states following the incident at the mall, Marti became increasingly
17 hesitant to visit with her father. She told her mother she had no privacy when at his home. She
18 finally refused to visit. Ms. Schatz said she did not attempt to dissuade any of her children from
19 visiting their father. To the contrary even when her daughters would cry and cling to her she
20 continued to try to get them to visit. Marti was forced to visit a few times and became very, very
21 angry.

22 According to Ms. Schatz Meredith still remembers an incident when she was five or six
23 years old when her father spanked her with a coat hanger and left welts on her body. She claimed
24 Mr. Schatz did little "bullying" things to the children. Since Eric Thomas was a little boy his
25 father has favored him. This practice continues as Mr. Schatz gives Eric Thomas an allowance,
26 but does not do the same for the girls. Ms. Schatz believes he does this to punish the girls for not
27 visiting him any more. She stated Mr. Schatz also buys toys and clothes for Eric Thomas, but
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1 does not make the effort to get the girls anything. he would go to the store, but not bring things
2 back to the children who chose to remain at home. She added that Mr. Schatz had given Marti a
3 gift certificate from the Bayshore Mall for her birthday this year.

4 Ms. Schatz states she and Mr. Schatz have different parenting methods. Mr. Schatz was
5 from the "old school" meaning he was conservative in his child rearing practices. She views him
6 as extremely authoritarian in his disciplining styles. She believes Mr. Schatz to be an overall
7 good father. She did state she was a little fearful of how he pushes Eric Thomas, especially
8 around the water. She said Mr. Schatz would not make him wear a safety jacket in the water.
9 She mentioned an incident where Eric Thomas fell out of a canoe and was trapped underneath it
10 when it flipped over. He was not wearing a life jacket. She added that she wants Eric Thomas to
11 visit his father whenever he wishes. She said she believed her son wanted to visit his father on
12 Wednesdays because Tyler, Mr. Schatz's girlfriend's stepson.

13 Ms. Schatz informed the GAL that Mr. Schatz had made allegations to her brother that
14 Ms. Schatz was using drugs last August. She also stated that Mr. Schatz took the children to the
15 Humboldt Coffee shop where he proceeded to sob and curse as he told the three children that their
16 mother had had an affair.

17 When the GAL queried Ms. Schatz on her drug use, she said that she never did drugs
18 with or without Mr. Schatz. She described herself as a rare social drinker who had never driven
19 under the influence.

20 Ms. Schatz informed GAL that Mr. Schatz was involved in purchasing land in Alameda
21 County for the purpose of Marijuana cultivation. She stated that she became aware of this
22 activity during a period in 1992 when she and Mr. Schatz were separated. She stated that she
23 received a telephone call from the Sacramento Sheriff's Department Narcotics Unit by an Officer
24 Allen Landcaster. She stated that she searched Mr. Schatz's briefcase and found the deed to this
25 land. At this time Ms. Schatz stated that she was attempting to begin classes at Humboldt State to
26 prepare for a career in teaching. She said that this incident placed her in jeopardy professionally.
27 She also said that she became the object of Mr. Schatz's anger that she believed to be related to
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1 this. She alleged that the choking incident occurred soon after this investigation. She said that the
2 family received threatening phone calls after Mr. Schatz cooperated with the investigation. She
3 added that the children were warned by Mr. Schatz to stay away from the windows and to report
4 the sighting of any unusual cars to him.

5 Ms. Schatz informed the GAL that she doesn't have any problem with her son having
6 increased visitation with his father mid-week. She does not want to forfeit her time on the
7 weekends as she plans to be attending the Police Academy at College of the Redwoods beginning
8 this August. This schedule is from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for seventeen
9 weeks. She would like to have all three children with her on the weekends. She stated that she is
10 concerned that the report of the GAL may cause a further breakdown of the communication
11 between herself and Mr. Schatz.

12 **Interview with R. Eric Schatz**

13 Mr. Schatz informed the GAL that his marriage had always been "rocky". He said he had
14 filed for divorce twice in the past and had probably gone through two dozen or so separations.
15 He stated that he continued to get back together with Ms. Schatz because he feared for what might
16 happen to the children if he wasn't in the home to serve as an intermediary between the three
17 children and Ms. Schatz. He said he finally recognizes that he and Ms. Schatz are not capable of
18 having a relationship with one another.

19 He stated that after nineteen years it was best to divorce and allow the animosity between
20 he and Ms. Schatz dissipate. He stated that Ms. Schatz never saw the fighting between the two of
21 them in front of the children to be a problem. He stated that as the divorce progressed the situation
22 between himself and the children worsened. Both of his daughters quit talking to him and
23 discontinued their visits. It soon became apparent to him that he would have to do something
24 "drastic" to salvage his relationship with the children.

25 He stated that his oldest daughter, Meredith, was always a "mommy's girl". He believes
26 the conflict between Meredith and himself to be largely due to the mothers and grandmother's
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1 input. He stated that his attempts to be consistent and follow through with discipline involving
2 Meredith were thwarted by Ms. Schatz and her mother. He believed that this placed him in the
3 role of the "bad guy" and Ms. Schatz in the role of the "good guy". He stated that the two
4 younger children were a little less resentful of him and tended to accept things pretty well.

5 Mr. Schatz recalled that Marti ceased her visitation with him just prior to Christmas 1994.
6 She has not given a reason to Mr. Schatz as to why she chooses not to visit.

7 Mr. Schatz stated that Ms. Schatz has discussed child support issues with the children.

8 Last

9 Christmas Ms. Schatz was to have told the children that they were going to have a bad Christmas
10 because of their dad. He believed that Ms. Schatz bases his "worth of fatherhood" on his income.
11 Prior to Ms. Schatz telling the children this, Marti was accompanying Eric Thomas to his father's
12 home for visits.

13 Last Thanksgiving Ms. Schatz changed the visitation schedule several times until the only
14 child who visited was Eric and this was not until Sunday from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. He stated that
15 this manipulation of visitation was not an uncommon occurrence.

16 Mr. Schatz stated that it is his practice to pay Ms. Schatz her child support in cash for
17 which Mr. Schatz receives a receipt. He said that Ms. Schatz needed surgery on her eye last year.
18 She needed to be able to prove that she didn't have much money so that she qualified as a Medi-
19 Cal recipient. She requested that Mr. Schatz post-date her receipt to him in December 1994. He
20 agreed to do this. He discovered after she had handed him the receipt that she had back-dated the
21 receipt to March 1994 when they were still together. He had given her \$1000.00 last December.
22 This made it appear as if he had not provided much financial support this past year.

23 Mr. Schatz rendered the following account of the altercation between his daughter
24 Meredith and himself at the Bayshore Mall:

25 Mr. Schatz drove all three children to the mall to purchase clothing for Meredith's school
26 photographs. once inside Ross Department Store, Meredith announced that she intended to buy
27 bib overalls. Mr. Schatz wanted to buy her "something nice" for the photos. Meredith insisted
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1 on the overalls and Mr. Schatz would not give in. They walked through the mall and out to Mr.
2 Schatz's car. Mr. Schatz was attempting to drive them all home when Meredith jumped out of his
3 car at the intersection beside the Big Five Sporting Goods. She ran through the traffic causing
4 Mr. Schatz to be extremely concerned for her safety. He drove back to the mall and chased her.
5 He grabbed hold of her wrist as she began yelling and resisting him. When the mall security
6 guards came out Mr. Schatz explained that he did not want to let go of her wrist because he feared
7 she would run away again. The security guards contacted the Eureka Police Department and the
8 police then drove the children to their mother's house.

9 Mr. Schatz maintains that Ms. Schatz has a violent temper that she is unable to control.
10 He said he has been accused of abusing Ms. Schatz when he was only defending himself. Once
11 he was ordered to diversion for this. He saw Steve Russians who was with Humboldt Family
12 Service Center at that time. After his initial evaluation he was only required to attend these
13 sessions one-half of the time usually required.

14 Ms. Schatz believes that Ms. Schatz needs psychiatric help. He thinks that what Ms.
15 Schatz is doing is causing damage to their children. He is concerned that Marti's teacher told him
16 that Marti had suicide potential in the future. Marti's teacher had also told him that Marti was
17 acutely depressed. the teacher recommended "strong therapy" for Marti "fast". He stated that
18 Marti has evolved from being a loving child toward him to calling him a "faggot". Marti
19 reportedly sits in one place tearing paper all day long while shutting everything and everybody
20 else out of her life.

21 Mr. Schatz feels that Ms. Schatz is extremely vindictive toward him. He recalled an
22 incident about ten years ago when Ms. Schatz made up a fictitious boyfriend named "Buck". this
23 ruse lasted approximately one and one-half years. She would tell Mr. Schatz that Buck wanted
24 her to tell him that be (buck) was going to "kick his butt" because he didn't think she and Mr.
25 Schatz should be together. Ms. Schatz would tell Mr. Schatz that she wasn't going to give Buck
26 up. Mr. Schatz believes that it was really "sick" of Ms. Schatz to have put her family through this
27 imaginary affair. He believes that it is this type of vindictiveness that she is now demonstrating
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1 again. He gives her credit for being able to get people to believe anything she tells them. He
2 thinks Ms. Schatz doesn't realize how much she harms their children for making him "pay".

3 Last October, 1994, Ms. Schatz busted Meredith's stereo with a baseball bat to punish her
4 for listening to it when she was not supposed to. On 5/19/94 Mr. Schatz recalled that Ms. Schatz
5 threw a rock through the glass in his truck. This happened at a time when she was demanding a
6 payment of \$2500.00 aside from support payments in order to purchase a house. About one
7 month before the GAL interviewed Mr. Schatz, Ms. Schatz was to have had an argument with her
8 own mother which culminated in Ms. Schatz breaking a family picture on the floor. While she
9 was doing this she was to have been screaming about how she was no longer a part of her own
10 family and that Georgia (her mother) was no longer her mother. Ms. Schatz's mother was to
11 have feared that Ms. Schatz was going to hit her. Mr. Schatz also reported that Ms. Schatz
12 assaulted Margie Flanagan, an aide at the Zane School, over a parking incident. The Eureka
13 Police Department was contacted, and a report was filed.

14 Ms. Schatz was concerned that Meredith has had repeated problems at Zane. He stated
15 that when Ms. Cobine, Vice Principal at Zane, had to deal with Ms. Schatz concerning Meredith
16 that Ms. Schatz would scream at and criticize Ms. Cobine. Ms. Cobine told Mr. Schatz that Ms.
17 Schatz has taught Meredith that the way to handle interpersonal problems is with violence.

18 Ms. Sorter at South Bay Union School told Mr. Schatz that she attempted to speak with
19 Ms. Schatz regarding Marti. She said she sent notes to Ms. Schatz and finally sent a letter. Ms.
20 Schatz came to school in response to the letter, expressed concern for Marti, and never contacted
21 Ms. Sorter again. Ms. Sorter was to have told Ms. Schatz that Marti had regressed, wasn't
22 getting her school work done and was introverted and could not express her feelings.

23 Mr. Schatz provided the GAL with the following account of his involvement with
24 marijuana cultivation:

25 One of his friends told him they were going to dig holes to plant marijuana. They let him
26 live with them in exchange for his labor. A few months later they told him they were going to
27 buy the property they had planted. They asked him to put it in his name because if they put it in
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1 their name and got caught, they'd lose the property. About two months later he realized that he
2 was doing something he did not believe in because he had always believed in obeying the law.
3 He telephoned his friends and told them he wanted nothing more to do with this operation. Mr.
4 Schatz promised to cooperate with the District Attorney.

5 Mr. Schatz stated that when he and Ms. Schatz lived in Klamath he found out one day
6 while at work that his trailer was on fire. Ms. Schatz admitted to setting the fire in an attempt to
7 clear their debt by collecting the insurance money. She also told him that paying off their debt
8 would allow the family to move back to Eureka, which they did.

9 Mr. Schatz recalled that Ms. Schatz had held a gun on him when they were living in
10 Klamath. he also said that Ms. Schatz's brother, Robert, witnessed Ms. Schatz attempt to run
11 over Mr. Schatz in their truck.

12 Mr. Schatz said that Meredith came to him at the Bayshore Mall prior to Christmas 1994.
13 Meredith said that she was in trouble and needed to talk. She shared that she was involved with
14 some gang members and they were angry with her and intended to harm her. Mr. Schatz said he
15 told Meredith that he recognized that he and she did not always get along, but she knew she could
16 come to him if she needed to. Meredith told him that she knew she could. He then inquired as to
17 whether she had confided this in her mother. She explained that she dreaded to do this because
18 after she spoke the first few words to her mother, her mother would then begin screaming and
19 would not hear the rest of what she had to say.

20 Mr. Schatz stated that Ms. Schatz phoned him sometime in November 1994 and requested
21 that he meet with her at the Humboldt Brewery. She admitted at this meeting to snorting speed to
22 "feel alive". She also informed Mr. Schatz that he had driven her into the "arms of another man".

23 **Interview with Meredith Schatz, DOB 12/25/80**

24 Meredith informed the GAL that she has participated in the home study program out of
25 Zane since November of 1994. She gave several reasons why she is doing this. she said that she
26 was going to school every morning crying, she got into trouble at school, and she was upset with
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1 her parent's situation. She plans to attend Arcata High next year because she and her mother do
2 not want her at Eureka High. She said she does not feel as confused as she did. She had recently
3 passed her Constitution test and will be promoted to high school.

4 She said that her mom had them all attending counseling with Marcelle Olsen for awhile.
5 She described this therapist as "childish" with them and said she had recently put an "okay stamp"
6 on all of them. She said that they were all returning the week after this interview including their
7 mother's boyfriend. She did not feel that she needed to attend counseling anymore.

8 Meredith stated that she was glad her parents were divorced. She said she was always
9 glad when her parents separated in the past. She believed that the marriage became worse each
10 time her parents reconciled.

11 Meredith recalled that she had always witnessed the fighting between her parents. She
12 said they would usually begin their argument in the bedroom and it would "explode" out into the
13 living room and then outside into the car. She said that sometimes they would lock themselves in
14 the bathroom and it was really "crazy". She stated that every couple of days her parents would
15 "shoot" remarks at one another and that by the end of the week they would be having "tantrums"
16 with one another. She said they would throw dishes and furniture at one another. She said that
17 her father would hit her mother and her mother would scream, run, and then throw something at
18 their father. She recalled that sometimes her parents would go to the bedroom and the children
19 would hear "things", then her mother would come out with a bleeding nose. Once their father
20 pulled a gun on their mother. Most of the time Meredith believed that her father started the
21 fighting. She said that she always blamed her father because he was the one who was usually
22 leaving.

23 Meredith told the GAL that she could not stand her father. That she could not stand to
24 look at him. She said she hated her father for what he had done to her mother and her siblings
25 as well as what he had done to her. She said she could still remember the time when she was six
26 and she wouldn't clean her room. Her father punished her by spanking her with a metal coat
27 hanger on her legs. She said her legs stayed cut and bruised for a long time.
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1 Meredith recalled an incident that occurred between herself and her father when her friend
2 Amber lived with them. She and Amber were rooting for a black football team that was playing
3 on television. Her father began calling them "niggers". her father continued this name calling
4 until she and her friend attempted to leave. At this point she stated that her father grabbed her by
5 her hair, then grabbed her wrist and stuck her in her right eye. She ran to a neighbors and
6 telephoned the police. Her father came to the home she was calling from and refused to leave,
7 Meredith stated that her father lied to the police and the police insisted to her that she had done
8 something to provoke the fight.

9 Meredith's recollection of the incident at the Bayshore Mall follows: She and her siblings
10 went with her father to the Bayshore Mall to the Ross Department Store. She wanted to purchase.
11 Her father would not let her. she said, "lets go". Her father began raising his voice. She said
12 that she left the store and was walking ahead of the rest of the party. They all got in her father's
13 car to return home. Her father told her that she was "trash" and her mother was a "whore". She
14 exited the car at the intersection beside Big Five Sporting Goods and ran to Penny's Department
15 Store. Mr. Schatz followed her, shoved her down on the pavement, grabbed hold of her hair and
16 wrist and dragged her to the car. He pinned her against the car and would not let her go. She
17 jerked her hand and heard it pop. She stated that her wrist was black and blue for days and that
18 her wrist is now permanently injured. She said that her mom took her father's side and that made
19 her angry.

20 Meredith said that she cut class for fifteen minutes when she was in the fifth grade. She
21 was suspended. Her parents punished her by packing up everything in her room, including her
22 bed frame. She was only left with the bare necessities. She was grounded to her room for four
23 months. She had to earn points to wash her clothes, go to the bathroom and to come out of her
24 room to eat. Mom went along with her father on this discipline.

25 She said that her father talks to anyone and everyone about their family business. she said
26 that last year when in the seventh grade her father started crying and "blubbering" about their
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1 mother having an affair. She said he then stood up in the middle of the coffee shop and screamed
2 that her mother was a “whore” and was having an affair.

3 Meredith stated that her father phones and tells her little brother that he is going to give his
4 mother \$1000.00. But he lies to them about that. She says they have to go to the food bank and
5 eat pasta and beans all the time. She also said that her younger brother, Eric Thomas, also says
6 that his father says bad things to him about his mother and his sisters.

7 Meredith stated that she does not miss her father at all, that she wants nothing from him,
8 that he is bigoted and that she will feel this way forever or until he is an “old man and harmless”.
9 She said that one day maybe she’s be able to sit down in a coffee shop and talk to him.

10 **Interview with Marti Schatz, DOB 2/2/83**

11 Marti informed the GAL that she was not too happy about the financial situation and was
12 glad that her parents got a divorce, because she doesn’t like her father. She said that her father
13 lies about how much money he makes each month. She stated that her father was able to get the
14 Courts to lower child support to \$50.00 each. Because there is not enough to support them.
15 Marti stated that her mother has to go to the Welfare Office and the Food Bank. She believes that
16 her father has a lot more money than he says he has.

17 She said that she doesn’t visit her dad because he is a “jerk” and she is afraid he will get
18 mad and hurt her. she believes that if she were to go visit her dad now that he would only leave
19 her with his girlfriend; it would not be like she were visiting him. she told the GAL that she
20 doesn’t want to talk to, write to, or visit with her father, ever. she does not believe she could ever
21 forgive him for all the “stuff” he has put them through.

22 When the GAL asked for some clarification of what the “stuff” was Marti offered the
23 following examples: She stated that when her mother was pregnant with Eric Thomas, her father
24 left them alone and ran off with another woman. She said she has seen her father hit her mother
25 and her sister. She stated that he broke a bone in her mother’s throat. She stated that compared to
26 her mother and Meredith, that her father treats her okay. She said that he yells at her and plays
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1 favorites with her brother. She believes that her father is nice to her brother just to make her
2 mother man. She said that her father has hit her with the belt more than five different times. She
3 said that she guesses this was her punishment, but to her it didn't seem like a very fair
4 punishment. She added that on her brother's birthday her father bought him a \$300.00 remote
5 car and a little motorcycle. When it came around to her sisters and her birthday, he told them he
6 could not afford to get them things like that.

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8 **Interview with Eric Thomas, DOB 6/17/84**

9 Eric stated that he lives with his mother and visits with his father on Wednesdays from
10 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. He would like to spend the night at his father's on Wednesday nights and have
11 his father take him to school on Thursday mornings. He also said that he visits his father every
12 other weekend and this was fine the way it is. He is allowed to phone his father whenever he
13 wants and would like phone calls to remain that way. He believes that the current arrangement of
14 alternating holidays each year to be fair.

15 At his mother's apartment he sleeps on the couch. His mother and her boyfriend share
16 one bedroom and his sisters the other. He stated that he has never had his own bedroom. He
17 stated that his mother's boyfriend, Rick, is cool and doesn't try to boss him around. He said
18 there is a small room with some chairs in it where he can go to be alone.

19 Living at his father's house are his father's girlfriend (Dana), her son (Tyler), and her
20 daughter (Mattie). Mattie, Tyler and Eric share a bedroom when Eric spends the night. His dad's
21 house has a yard and there are friends for him to play with in the neighborhood.

22 Eric stated that sometimes Tyler can be bossy, as he is not used to having to share his
23 possessions. Mattie has Cerebral Palsy and is good about sharing.

24 Eric said that sometimes when he returns home his mom asks him if he had a good time at
25 his dad's. He said he had heard that his dad had beaten his mom up or something. He stated that
26 his mom said dad did beat her up and dad says he didn't. Eric said it was the same thing with the
27 money situation. He didn't know who to believe. he guessed he'd believe his mom regarding the
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1 money situation because if his father was giving them money, they would have the money for
2 clothes and shoes and stuff.

3 If Eric was could have three wishes they would be:

4 1. That they would find \$1000.00 on their couch each month at his mom's house.

5 2. that they had a regular house to live in with children in the neighborhood to play with.

6 His house would be two stories tall with a tree outside to climb. His house would have fancy
7 china, a big television, a Super Nintendo and a Panasonic with "virtual reality" which would let
8 him feel the action.

9 3. That he had wishes that lasted to infinity. He would wish for world peace, no smog
10 the ozone layer fixed. He also wanted there to be unicorns and dragons in the forest.

11 If Eric could change his mom: He thought and then asked if his dad was paying child
12 support because his dad tells him that he is. He stated that he didn't know who to believe. When
13 the GAL asked Eric if he worried about the child support he replied that he did sometimes. then
14 he said that he just wished his mother wouldn't worry so much like she does, that's all.

15 To change his father, Eric would want him to be taller so he could lift him up to the rim of
16 the basketball hoop. He would also want him to not worry about how much time he was going to
17 have with him (Eric) or that he wasn't going to see him anymore. Eric closed by saying that he
18 liked going over to his fathers and he wanted to see him so his father did not need to worry.

19 **Interview with Chun Watts**

20 Ms. Watts told the GAL that Mr. Schatz used to have a real good relationship with his
21 children. She said she had never known him to have a substance abuse problem. She said that he
22 is a good father and tries very hard. She added that Ms. Schatz lets the children have whatever
23 they want and that the parents have differing parenting styles.
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25 **Interview with Meredith Biasca**
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1 Ms. Biasca has known Mr. Schatz for seventeen years. She stated that when the children
2 were younger, he was excellent with the children. She said he was very attentive to Meredith in
3 the past and would do anything for his children. She said she now understands that things are not
4 going well.

5 She believes Mr. Schatz to be a stable individual. She offered that compared to Ms.
6 Schatz, Mr. Schatz should be on a pedestal "forty miles high". Ms. Biasca voluntarily informed
7 the GAL that when the Schatz's lived in Klamath years ago, Ms. Schatz created an imaginary
8 boyfriend. She said Ms. Schatz would mail letter to herself from Eureka pretending that they
9 originated from this fictitious boyfriend. She stated that she would smoke cigarettes and leave the
10 butts in the ashtray claiming when Mr. Schatz arrived home that they were from this boyfriend.
11 She would also leave a partially filled beer can on the coffee table that the boyfriend was to have
12 consumed. Ms. Biasca said this made "cold chills go up her spine". She said that she had heard
13 of other "weird" things Ms. Schatz was to have done but none of these were first hand
14 knowledge.

15 Ms. Biasca believed that Ms. Schatz had a "sixty mile umbilical cord" between her and her
16 mother when the Schatz's were living in Klamath. She said that Ms. Schatz had never had a
17 childhood and she thought that Ms. Schatz was going through her childhood during her marriage.
18 She described Ms. Schatz as "twisted" and felt that she had been that way for a long time. she
19 stated that she has often accompanied Mr. Schatz to pick up his son because Mr. Schatz never
20 knows what Ms. Schatz will do next.

21 **Interview with Lonnie Wilhoite**

22 Ms. Wilhoite has known Ms. Schatz for thirty years. She believes her to have a better
23 than normal relationship with her children. She believes the children are best placed where they
24 are with their mother because the mother's home is a "nurturing place".
25

26 **Interview with Debbie McNew**

27
28

1 Ms. McNew has known Ms. Schatz all her life. She believes her to be a very good lady, a good
2 mom and level-headed. she said that Ms. Schatz is the most mellow person she has ever known.
3 She stated that Ms. Schatz and her children are real close and that Ms. Schatz is real open with her
4 children.

5 **Interview with Paula Jo Exline**

6 Ms. Exline has known Ms. Schatz for three years and is her sister-in-law. She stated that
7 Ms. Schatz was an excellent mother and pretty open with her children. She stated that one could
8 not ask for a better mother. She also complimented the children on their good behavior.
9

10 **Interview with Kim Cobine**

11 Ms. Cobine is the assistant principal at Zane Junior High School. She stated that when
12 Meredith Schatz was in the seventh grade she ran with a pretty rowdy bunch of kids that would
13 set other students up to fight with them. she stated that two of these students were eventually
14 expelled; one for assault, the other for drugs.
15

16 She recalled one incident where Meredith and a male student became involved in a
17 physical altercation. She stated that school policy mandates that all parties to a problem such as
18 this are brought before her for disciplining. She stated that the teenage boy involved in this
19 incident had not had any behavioral problems in the past. she stated that the young man and
20 witnesses said that he only hit Meredith to escape. she stated that the young man agreed to
21 participate in conflict management to resolve this issue. Meredith and Ms. Schatz would not agree
22 to this. Witnesses had told Ms. Cobine that Meredith had been stalking the teenage boy and had
23 backed him up against a pillar of the building. The young man was placed on an in-school
24 suspension because he agreed to problem solve.

25 Ms. Cobine stated that Ms. Schatz came to her office and proceeded to "rant, rave and
26 scream" for a least two hours. she kept insisting that Ms. Cobine view this incident as a "male
27 dominant problem". Ms. Cobine stated that she believed Meredith got a negative viewpoint
28

1 Ms. VanVleck made it clear to the GAL that the school's position on custody is a neutral
2 one. She expressed her concern regarding Marti Schatz to the GAL. She remembered that Marti
3 was the perfect child her fifth grade year i.e., straight A's, no behavioral problems and in the
4 GATE Program. When Marti entered the eighth grade, she had done a total turn around according
5 to Ms. VanVleck. Her grades plummeted to the C and D range, she did very little school work,
6 her attitude and behavior changed, and she began dressing in black. Marti was not physically
7 violent with her classmates, but became openly critical of them. She stated that she spoke with
8 Marti often in her office and Marti would sometimes cry while there. Marti told Ms. VanVleck
9 that she had a problem but that her mother was taking care of it.

10 She stated that Marti was a part of a threesome of girls who were not good for each other.
11 On a school camp out the girls' refusal to obey the rules resulted in a suspension.

12 Ms. VanVleck stated that she has spoken with both parents many times. She stated that
13 Ms. Schatz has a "temper" and is harder to deal with than Mr. Schatz. She stated that Ms. Schatz
14 will defend her children to the end, right or wrong.

15 She said that Marti's teacher had been concerned regarding Marti's "turn around" and her
16 falling grades. She said she did not believe that Marti's teacher nor Ms. Klima believed Marti to
17 be suicidal.

18 She added that Meredith was another "angel child" until the 5th grade when she had also
19 changed. She had not seen as dramatic of change with Meredith as she had with Marti.

20 Ms. VanVleck concluded by telling the GAL that Marti had recently seen her father in the
21 school corridor. She said that for no apparent reason Marti began to "freak out" and dashed into a
22 classroom crying. She was only able to calm down and allay her fears when she was reassured
23 that her father was not there to bother her.

24 Interview with Marcelle Olsen

25 Ms. Olsen has been seeing Ms. Schatz and her children in therapy. She stated that the
26 family has taken a break, but was to resume counseling on 7/17/95. She stated that Medi-Cal
27
28

1 would only pay for counseling on a bi-monthly basis. She believed they could benefit from
2 weekly counseling.

3 Initially Ms. Olsen saw the family to focus on adjustment following the divorce. She
4 described the children as being used as "lightening rods" between their mother and their father.
5 She said the children were deviled in their loyalty between their parents. She had been in the
6 process of "de-triangulating" the children from this relationship.

7 She believes that the girls are pretty shut off. She stated that Meredith does mom's work
8 for her and also sets the tone for the other children. She believes that each one of them needs to
9 be able to think for him/herself. She would like for them to be able to feel again.

10 She informed the GAL that both girls were carrying their mother's rage. She stated that
11 the children witnessed the abuse of mom from dad and also the abuse of Meredith from dad. She
12 believed that Marti did not have the same reason to feel badly toward her father as Meredith did,
13 but believed she did this out of allegiance to her mother and sister.

14 She thought it would be a good plan to have Ms. Schatz join them in therapy at a future
15 date.

16 **Discussion and Recommendations**

17 Rage appears to be the family theme of the Schatz family. It has been most difficult for
18 the GAL to ascertain clearly where the anger falls. when uncovering rage, pain is always found
19 underneath. this is a family who is torn and clearly hurting. All the children seem to be
20 experiencing their pain at differing levels for their own reason. GAL is gravely concerned the
21 family may continue along the spiraling path of self-destruction if specific interventions are not
22 employed in a timely manner.

23 GAL has spoken at length with all the family members and with other professionals who
24 have genuinely expressed their concern. GAL cannot ignore the indirect requests the family
25 members have made for assistance.

26 GAL respectfully recommends:
27
28

1 1. The entire family to undergo a thorough psychiatric evaluation, including psychometric
2 testing, by Dr. Andrew Kumin.

3 2. That Eric Thomas Schatz continue to have visits every other weekend in his father's
4 home and that overnight visits on Wednesday nights be added as he has requested.

5 3. That Eric Thomas be allowed liberal phone contact with his father, whenever he
6 desires.

7 4. Neither parent to denigrate the other in the presence of the children nor allow anyone
8 else to do so.

9 5. Neither parent to discuss the GAL's report, custody, visitation, financial arrangements
10 or any other subject that pertains to the divorce and/or custody proceedings with any of the
11 children, or in their presence, no allow anyone else to do so.

12 DATED: July 14, 1995

Respectfully submitted,

13 *Virginia Coleman*
14 Virginia Coleman *my own*
Social Worker

As of: 04012000 @ 11:14; C ~ 3745 12/28/92 ;IC 2

Defendant: SCHATZ RUDOLF ERIC Booking #: 0000293899
Custody Status: Release: Charges dismissed
Atty of Record: PARSHALL, ROGER

***** Charges *****

Arrest: 1 PC273.5 INFLICT CORPORAL INJ ON SPOUSE/COHAB
D.O.V.: 11281992 Felony
Arrgn: 1 PC273.5(A) INFLICT CORPORAL INJ SPOUSE/COHAB/PARENT OF D'S CH
D.O.V.: 11281992 Misdemeanor (pursuant 17B4)
Action Date: 01241994 MISDEMEANOR DIVERSION

***** No Sentences for this Case

***** Actions *****

Date	Action	
11/28/1992	ARRESTED	0000000000
11/29/1992	RELEASED FROM JAIL	0000000000
	Outcome: RELEASE ON BOND	
11/30/1992	D.A. RECEIVED L.E. REPORT	
	Outcome: PENDING INITIAL D.A. DECISION	
12/02/1992	D.A. ISSUED COMPLAINT	
12/03/1992	COMPLAINT FILED	
12/28/1992	*ARRAIGNMENT	in Municipal Court (obs)
	Prosecutor: SPECTOR, WENDY	
	Defense: CHALFIE, ALAN	
	Outcome: PLEA NOT-GUILTY	
12/28/1992	PUBLIC DEFENDER APPOINTED	
12/29/1992	*ARRAIGNMENT	in Municipal Court (obs)
	Prosecutor: SPECTOR, WENDY	
	Defense: CHALFIE, ALAN	
	Outcome: VACATED	
12/31/1992	*PRETRIAL	in Municipal Court (obs)
	Prosecutor: ELAZAR, DONNA	
	Defense: VODOPALS, PETER E.	
12/31/1992	ROUTE MINUTE TO PROBATION	
1/22/1993	PLACED ON DIVERSION	
1/22/1993	*PC 1000 HEARING	in Municipal Court (obs)
	Prosecutor: DIKEMAN, WORTH JR	
	Defense: CHALFIE, ALAN	
1/24/1994	CASE DISMISSED	
1/24/1994	*DISPOSITION	in Municipal Court (obs)
	Prosecutor: NORTON, ELIZABETH	
	Defense: PARSHALL, ROGER	
	Outcome: CASE DISMISSED	

Number of Court Hearings to Date: 4

*** [REDACTED] 30

[REDACTED] W

[REDACTED] A

[REDACTED] D

*** [REDACTED] ***

ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name and address):
RORY A. HANSON, INC. sbn #57223
 A Law Corporation
 305 K Street
 Eureka, CA 95501

TELEPHONE
 707-445-2011

FOR COURT USE ONLY

ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Respondent

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF Humboldt
 STREET ADDRESS: 825 5th St.
 MAILING ADDRESS: Same
 CITY AND ZIP CODE: Eureka, CA 95501
 BRANCH NAME:

LINDSEY McWILLIAMS
 Humboldt County Clerk
 JUL 31 1995
 FILED
 BY *[Signature]*

PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: **VICKEY SCHATZ**
 RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT: **RUDOLF ERIC SCHATZ**

INCOME AND EXPENSE DECLARATION

CASE NUMBER: 91FL0912

Step 1
 Attachments to
 this summary

I have completed Income Expense Child Support Information forms.
 (If child support is not an issue, do not complete the Child Support Information Form. If your only income is AFDC,
 do not complete the Income Information Form.)

Step 2
 Answer all
 questions that
 apply to you

1. Are you receiving or have you applied for or do you intend to apply for welfare or AFDC?
 Receiving Applied for Intend to apply for No

2. What is your date of birth (month/day/year)? 5-20-59

3. What is your occupation? Self employed tree trimer

4. Highest year of education completed: 12

5. Are you currently employed? Yes No

a. If yes: (1) Where do you work? (name and address): Self employed.

(2) When did you start work there (month/year)?

b. If no: (1) When did you last work (month/year)?

(2) What were your gross monthly earnings?

6. What is the total number of minor children you are legally obligated to support?

Step 3
 Monthly income
 information

7. Net monthly disposable income (from line 16a of Income Information): \$ 820.29

8. Current net monthly disposable income (if different from line 7, explain below or on Attachment B): \$

Step 4
 Expense
 information

9. Total monthly expenses from line 2q of Expense Information: \$ 1,105.00

10. Amount of these expenses paid by others: \$

Step 5 Other
 party's income

11. My estimate of the other party's gross monthly income is: \$

Step 6
 Date and
 sign this form

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing and
 the attached information forms are true and correct.

Date: July 31, 1995

R. Eric Schalt
 (TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

[Signature]
 (SIGNATURE OF DECLARANT)

Petitioner Respondent