

NOTICE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS SENSITIVE DATA

CAUSE NO. 2024-72116

IN THE INTEREST OF

[REDACTED] AND

MINOR CHILDREN

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT

245th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

CHRISTOPHER J. BAUER'S SUPPORTING AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF HARRIS §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared, CHRISTOPHER J. BAUER, who swore and affirmed to tell the truth, and stated under oath as follows:

“My name is CHRISTOPHER J. BAUER. I am above the age of eighteen years, and I am fully competent to make this affidavit. The facts stated in this affidavit are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

“My wife, SHARON L. BAUER, and I are the Petitioners in this Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship seeking sole managing conservatorship over our grandchildren, [REDACTED] who is 3 years old and [REDACTED] who will be two years old on [REDACTED]. The Respondent is LEE MONGERSON GILLEY, our son-in-law and [REDACTED] father. He was married to our daughter, CHRISTA GILLEY, who was murdered last week, along with their unborn child.

“On the morning of October 8, 2024, I awoke to an alarming text message and two missed calls from Lee indicating something happened to Christa. Lee stated Christa was taken to the hospital after he tried to perform CPR on her but never told me what state Christa was in. Panicked, I tried to reach Lee to no avail. I also tried to reach Lee’s parents, but got no response. Terrified, we called our daughter, Samantha, to find anyone who could check on Christa and our grandchildren, since we live in South Carolina and couldn’t do it ourselves. Eventually our worst friends were realized after Heights Hospital confirmed our daughter and unborn grandchild were dead.

“Dumbfounded, I continued to call Lee for an explanation or understanding of what transpired. Lee responded to those calls with an email, informing me Christa was dead and expressing concerns about being charged with her murder. Eventually Lee finally returned my

calls, and he was animated, not sorrowful. Lee's main concern was the likelihood that he would face criminal prosecution. He mentioned fleeing from Texas with the children. In describing the evening leading up to Christa's death, Lee claimed he and Christa did bedtime routines with the children and then Christa went to take a shower, and go to bed. Lee stated that when he came into their bedroom 3 hours later Christa was sprawled over the bed, bleeding from her nose, black and blue, and unresponsive.

"Lee tried to claim to Christa died of natural causes but the circumstances surrounding her death do not support that assertion. I later learned Lee told the police that Christa committed suicide and also told a friend she overdosed. He also acknowledged they had been arguing that evening.

"The next day I accessed Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences website using Christa's case number and learned her death was deemed a homicide. Our daughter and unborn grandchild were killed by strangulation. Only Lee, Christa and their 3-year-old and 23-month-old child live in that home and were there when this occurred. No one else. The mere thought of the amount of force required to take a life by strangulation is sickening. My wife and I never imagined Lee was capable of such heinous acts and do not feel our grandchildren are safe around him, for fear that and are fearful for our grandchildren's safety, both physically and emotionally, in his presence.

"Lee was picked up by the Harris County Sherriff's office on October 11, 2024, and charged with Capital Murder for the death of our daughter and unborn grandchild. A true and correct copy of the Complaint against him and the Bond Order in his criminal case are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as **Exhibits "A-1-a" and "A-1-b"**. Lee is presently in Harris County jail but has criminal proceeding tomorrow regarding his bond.

"I believe our grandchildren's physical and emotional safety is at grave risk in the care of their father. I never thought I would say that but circumstances surrounding Christa's murder lead me to no other conclusion. Lee was the only person in the home capable of exerting the force necessary to strangle Christa. Directly following Christa's death Lee's only concern was self-preservation, not about the children or how the loss of their mother would impact them. Instead, he was focused on fleeing Houston and told me so when we talked. He even said he was going to give the family dog, who the children love and is an emotional support to them, to a neighbor. His focus was not his children, or the loss of his wife, just how he would fare in all of this.

"Lee is now the children's only surviving parent and the only person with the right to make decisions regarding [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]'s care. As it stands now, if he is unable to post bond our grandchildren have no one with the authority to make important decisions regarding their medical or psychological care. A recent example of this is [REDACTED] who is 2 years old, has severe eczema. When it flares up it is severely painful and requires medical attention but we cannot consent to medical treatment for him. We can't access his medical records or talk to his doctors regarding treatment regiments and in the meantime, [REDACTED] is suffering. What's more, both children are suffering emotionally regarding the loss of their mom. It's confusing, scary, and foreign to them not to have her with us and their father is the cause of that emotional turmoil.

“Further, if Lee does post bond, I have serious fears for the safety of our grandchildren in his care. They were home when Christa was murdered. We have no idea if the rage that led Lee to strangle her, but the act in and of itself is enough for me to know the children are not safe alone with him. We have requested an ex parte protective order preventing Lee from having contact with the children. We are requesting this Court issue an ex parte order placing the children subject of this suit in our care pending the temporary orders hearing in this matter.

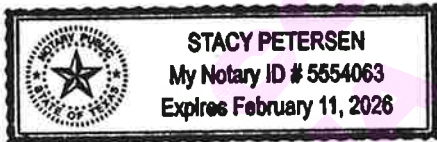
“I genuinely believe, our grandchildren’s present circumstances significantly impair their physical health and emotional well-being, whether Lee remains in jail or posts bond. Lee was the last person to see Christa alive and now she’s dead. We don’t want the same fate for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. With Lee as their only living parent, he presently has all rights in relation to the children’s care and this is beyond alarming to Sharon and I given what happened to Christa and their unborn sibling. The children aren’t safe with Lee, emotionally or physically. We are requesting a temporary orders hearing for the Court to hear testimony surrounding these recent events and the well-being of our grandchildren and the risks their father poses to them.

“My wife and I are petrified of what Lee is capable of and what he could/would do to our grandchildren if he is allowed to be alone with the children. We are asking for a conservatorship over our grandchildren to ensure the physical safety is protected, and their physical and emotional needs are met.

“Further affiant sayeth not.”


CHRISTOPHER J. BAUER

SIGNED under oath before me on October 16, 2024.




Notary Public, State of Texas



I, Marilyn Burgess, District Clerk of Harris County, Texas certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original record filed and or recorded in my office, electronically or hard copy, as it appears on this date.

Witness my official hand and seal of office this November 19, 2024

Certified Document Number: 117213356 Total Pages: 3

Marilyn Burgess

Marilyn Burgess, DISTRICT CLERK
HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

LUNA SHARK MEDIA
COURTESY OF

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