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August 14, 2008

Re: Ariana Leilani King-Pfeiffer

To Whom It May Concern,

Dr. Ariel King contacted me as she was concerned that her daughter, Ariana Leilani King-Pfeiffer, age 5, was being abused. I initially met with Dr. King and her attorney, Mr. Ray Morris, on July 22, 2008. Subsequently I reviewed documents that Dr. King provided to me, including a record of symptoms that Dr. King compiled during the period June 2-9, 2008, notes from pediatric visits from June 12, 2007 until January 8, 2008, a transcript of Ariana Leilani's discussion with her mother on June 4, 2008, and brief videos of Ariana Leilani. I had Dr. King complete a detailed developmental history of her daughter. Dr. King also completed the Child Dissociative Checklist, Version 3. I then had a telephone interview with Dr. King on August 13, 2008 focusing on specific changes in Ariana's behavior. Based upon my review of these materials and my interview with Dr. King, it is my professional opinion that there is strong clinical evidence to suspect that Ariana Leilani King-Pfeiffer is being sexually molested.

The developmental history suggests that Ariana's development was proceeding normally until age four. She was a healthy newborn (APGAR scores 9/10) who was successfully breast-fed for three years. There were no early feeding difficulties and she enjoyed being held and cuddled by her mother. Developmental milestones for walking and talking were met within normal limits. Toilet training was accomplished by age three years and she was sleeping through the night by age two years (although this is somewhat on the late side, children who are breast-fed often do not sleep through the night until this age as they need to feed on a regular basis due to the lower calorie content of breast milk). Socially she was extroverted and gregarious, making friends easily. The "terrible two's" were relatively easy for Ariana as she only manifested a few temper tantrums a week during this period; these were appropriately managed by allowing Ariana to vent her frustration and then discussing the issue with her after she calmed down.

At age four, Ariana's behavior began to change dramatically. She went from being an outgoing child to a shy and withdrawn child. The occasional "accident" became full blown enuresis, culminating in her urinating in her clothing several times per day and even having multiple encopretic episodes. The well mannered child began to exhibit outbursts of rage, during which she would scream, strike her mother, bite herself, and destroy her own toys and treasured belongings. When her mother would ask her what was wrong, Ariana would reply that she could not tell her mother why she is angry as it is a secret. In February, 2008 Ariana spoke of seeing "Mr. Piggy's shangle." Dr. King's German au pair informed her that "shangle" is a German

A. King-Pfeiffer

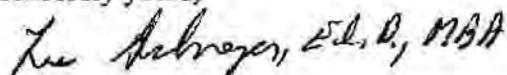
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slang word for penis. Later that month Ariana was assessed at the Tree House Center, where she was taught the difference between "good touch" and "bad touch". In June, 2008, Ariana told her mother that her father was doing bad touching with her, whereas she and her mother enjoy good touching between them.

As mentioned earlier, Dr. King completed the Child Dissociative Checklist, Version 3. This is a twenty (20) item checklist designed by Frank Putnam, M.D., an expert in the field of dissociative identity disorder (DID), to assess for the possibility of dissociation. The median score for normal population is 2.0, for anxiety disorder it is 4.0, and for DID it is 25; Ariana's scored 27, strongly suggesting the possibility that she is experiencing symptoms of dissociation. Discussion of the items with Dr. King indicated that Ariana has experienced periods where she "zones out" and does not respond to her mother or react for a period up to one minute. She has also exhibited striking changes in personality. On one occasion Ariana was crying as she did not want to go on a visit with her father. She then suddenly stopped crying and said in a different voice "ok, I'm going to get my pocketbook", picked up her belongings and left, exhibiting totally different mannerisms from her normal behaviors. She has also had rapidly changing physical complaints, one moment complaining of a stomach ache or headache and then the next moment it was completely gone. Dr. King has also noted cuts and bruises on Ariana that her daughter could not recall sustaining. Finally, in recent months Ariana began to kiss her mother with an open mouth, a behavior that was totally foreign to their prior interactions.

The deterioration in Ariana's behavior, combined with her dissociative symptoms and her verbalization of experiencing bad touch, strongly suggest that Ariana has been subject to sexual abuse for a sustained period and clearly warrant that she immediately receive a thorough sexual abuse evaluation by a trained expert in this field, such as Katie Killeen, Ph.D., of Towson, MD. To not require such an assessment to rule out this possibility would be to potentially subject this young child to a sustained period of abuse which could well result in her becoming a dissociative identity disorder (DID), which would have profoundly negative implications for her future.

Sincerely yours,



Lee Schneyer, Ed.D., M.B.A.