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Jan 06 15 11:10p

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To Whom It May Concern,

January 6, 2015

I'm submitting this letter in reference to Ms. Catherine Levine a foster parent in the Berkeley County area. I'm concerned of how a situation was handled unfairly involving her and removal of the children that she had in her home.

Back in December Ms. Levine called the local Berkeley County DSS office to have them send someone to out and speak with 6 and 9 year old sisters. These children had been in her home and there have been several incidents of were these children had stolen items from school and within the home. The most recent incident that lead to Ms. Levine to call Ms. Seabrook in the local office was that the two sisters pulled an earring out of the 2 year old child's ear. The children gave Ms. Levine the front of the earring and held on to the back until the next falling day.

Ms. Seabrook sent one of the young lady's I think her name may have been Alex and she brought another social worker with her by name of Gwen Dubose. The next day the two children were moved from the home without any explanation and very limited notice from the office.

Then on Monday, January 5, 2015 Ms. Levine received a called from the 2 years old child social worker that the child will be removed and the letter she had in her hand did not state why. Ms. Levine called her the County Director Enid Jenkins and she told Ms. Levine that the 2 year old was being moved because she would be placed for adoption. Ms. Levine called the local adoption office and they had no knowledge of the situation. When the social worker Tyika Asby came to pick up the two year old she gave Ms. Levine a copy of the letter that should have been sent to Ms. Levine prior to the child being removed from the home. At that point she was told to come in on Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> for a meeting to be given an explanation.

This is definitely a red flag the social worker have no explanation as to why the child was being removed. Then the County Director is going to say that the child is being placed in another home for adoption and the adoption office has no knowledge of that decision. Then finally after you have the child in your

possession you inform Ms. Levine to appear for a meeting to be given the explanation for removal.

How this situation was handled it appears that the social workers that came in to the home to speak with the children decided to plot a scheme to have the children remove. The other workers including the county director and supervisors back them in their decision regardless if it was right or wrong without any further investigation to know if the information provided to them were true or not.

With my knowledge of how DSS operates a foster parent(s) is to be given 10 days notice before removal of the children. From how this situation was handled is seems to me like they did not want to allow Ms. Levine that opportunity.

I strongly believe that an investigation should be started on those involved because Ms. Levine was definitely treated unfairly as a foster parent. Also to remove the children from a loving, nurturing environment was unfair to the children as well. This matter should definitely be looked into and not swept under a rug like it never happened. I won't be surprised if once investigated you find other situations were children were moved unfairly by these group individuals in your local office.

Sincerely,

A concerned citizen