

EXHIBIT

1

Hello, our names are Jeremy and Tara. It's so hard knowing where to start and how to find the right words to express how excited we are and how much we appreciate you looking at our profile. While we will never know the full impact of what you are going through, we do know that this must be a hard and emotional time for you.

We wanted to share with you the life we live and the abundance of love we have in our family.

We would love to expand our family through adoption. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for looking at our profile.

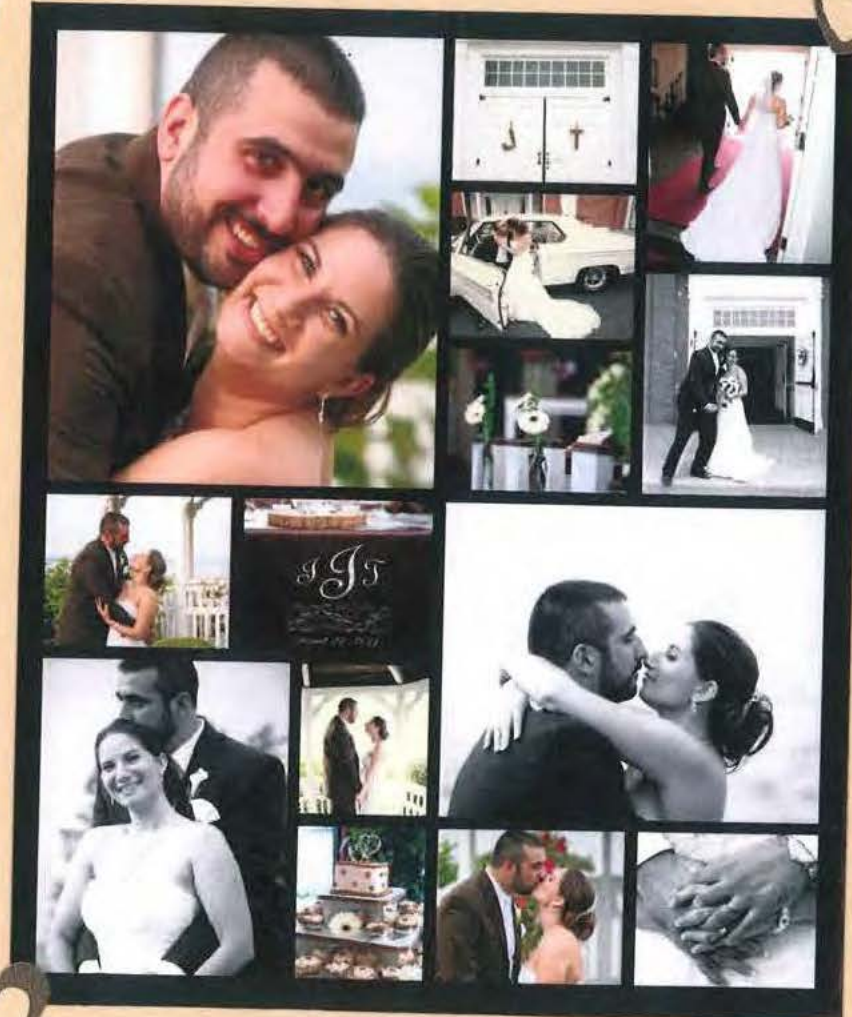
Sincerely,

Tara & Jeremy

»»» Hello



soulmates



We first met each other 9 years ago briefly at a birthday party. It was not until a year and half later that we would meet again when Jeremy started working for the same company that Tara did. While at a company function we started talking and immediately hit it off. We started taking our lunches together and became great friends. We noticed right away that we share the same sense of humor and adore our families. We had been dating for just over a year and knew that we were meant to be together. We were married on August 27, 2011. We have a strong bond and we face every aspect of our lives together.

love of my life



two souls, one heart



XOXO

hard WORK

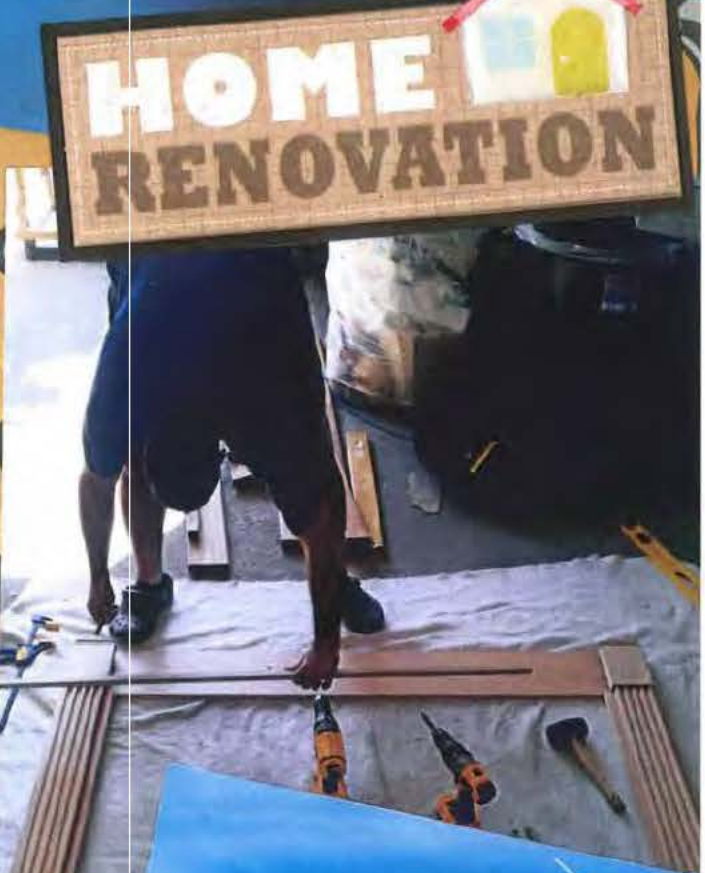
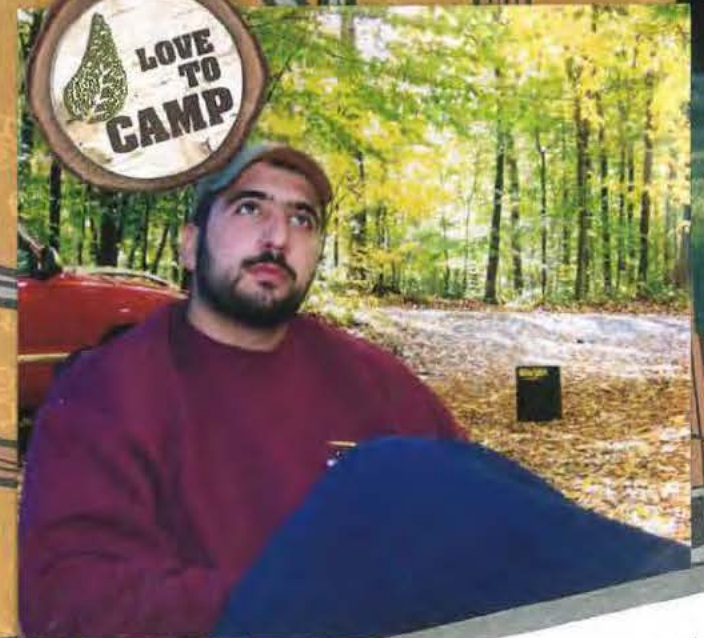
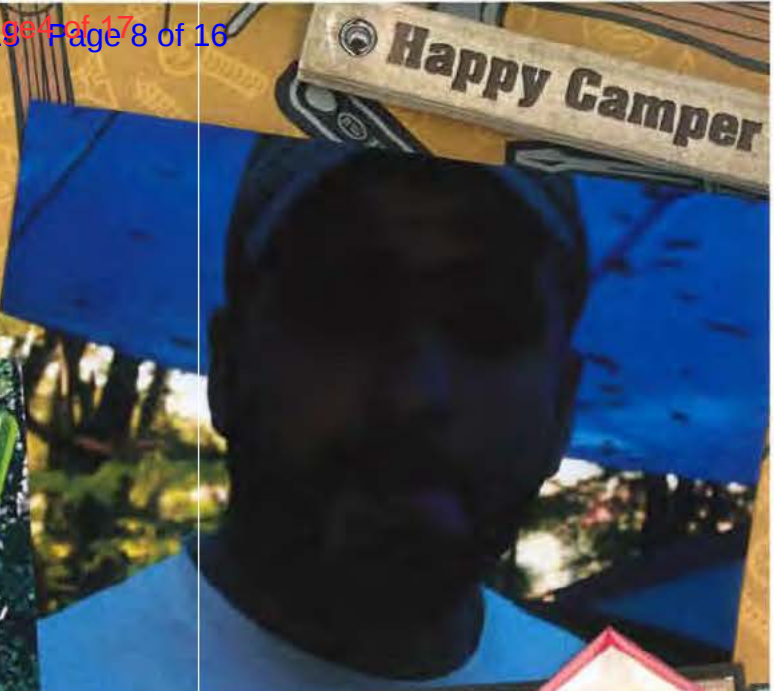
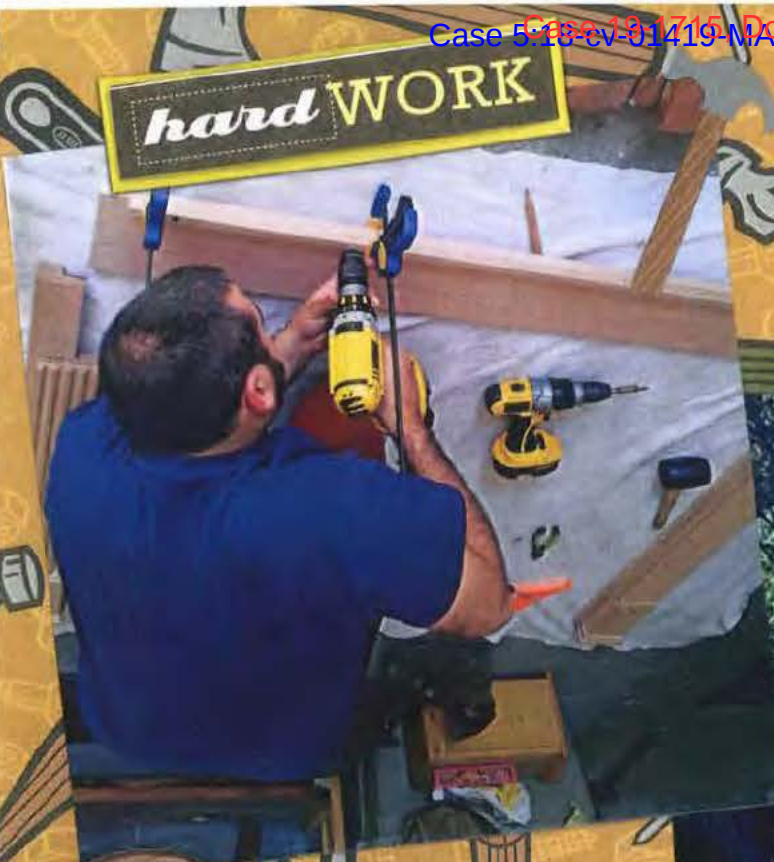
JEREMY

Happy Camper

HOLE IN ONE

HOME RENOVATION

LOVE TO CAMP



Meet Jeremy ...

I grew up the younger of two children and come from a large and loving Italian family. I grew up with 4 cousins that are all around the same age who are all like brothers, and my aunts are like second moms to me. I would consider myself a great handy man and love to do projects around the house. Whether it's landscaping or installing a new deck I can do it all. I love to learn and push myself. I enjoy anything outdoors such as camping, hiking, and golfing.

I have a Bachelors Degree in History and Communications. I started working for a company as a mechanic when I graduated I was quickly promoted to a sales representative. I love my career and enjoy going to work every day.

- Favorite Food: Steak
- Favorite Music: Anything
- Favorite Holiday: Christmas Eve (Family Traditions)
- Favorite Movie: Iron Man
- Favorite Sport to Watch: College Basketball
- Hobbies: Working on old cars with his dad



say cheese!

COLOR ME RAD RUN W/ [redacted] & [redacted]



WEDDING

friends



BREAST CANCER MUD RUN W/ [redacted]

best friends forever



WARRIOR DASH MUD RUN W/ [redacted]

special bond

13298

38355

lovely ladies



SLUMBER



JEREMY & I IN FLORIDA

us

GOLFING W/ MY SISTER



happy



sisters

friends

Meet Tara...

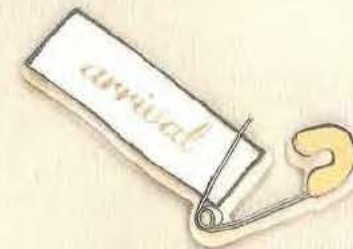
I grew up in a very large family. I am an only child to my mother but grew up with a half brother and sister. After my parents divorced and my mother remarried I gained 3 step sisters and 3 step brothers. My mom's side of the family is very large and she was one of nine children. Although getting around 100 family members together is tricky, we make sure to do it at least once a year at my grandma's house. She loves having a blended family and finds it a blessing and values the time together. I love camping, hiking, golfing and doing fun runs with my friends and family.

She has an Associate's Degree in Office Technology. She works for a company as an order analyst and customer care representative. She loves the company she works for because it feels like a small family owned business.

TARA

- Favorite Food: Prime Rib
- Favorite Music: I listen to it all
- Favorite Holiday: Christmas Eve
- Favorite Movie: Pretty Woman
- Favorite Sport to Watch: College Basketball
- Hobbies: Photography and fun runs

Preparing the Nursery



When the baby comes...

Tara will have maternity leave from work and extended time off. She also has the flexibility to work from home part time when the time is right to go back to work. Jeremy will also have a couple of weeks of time off as well to be home to help welcome home the baby. Both of our mothers will be taking time off to help us adjust and give a helping hand.

The nursery is set up and waiting. The nursery will be right across the hall from our master bedroom. We will be using the same gender neutral theme as we did for [REDACTED] Since we were not specific on the gender because we will love a little boy or girl or both! The theme is Baby Bear by Carter's. We felt it would be nice to pass down the theme as a family tradition to the next addition to the family.



TARA'S



F A M I L Y

JEREMY'S



Easter at Mom and Dad's



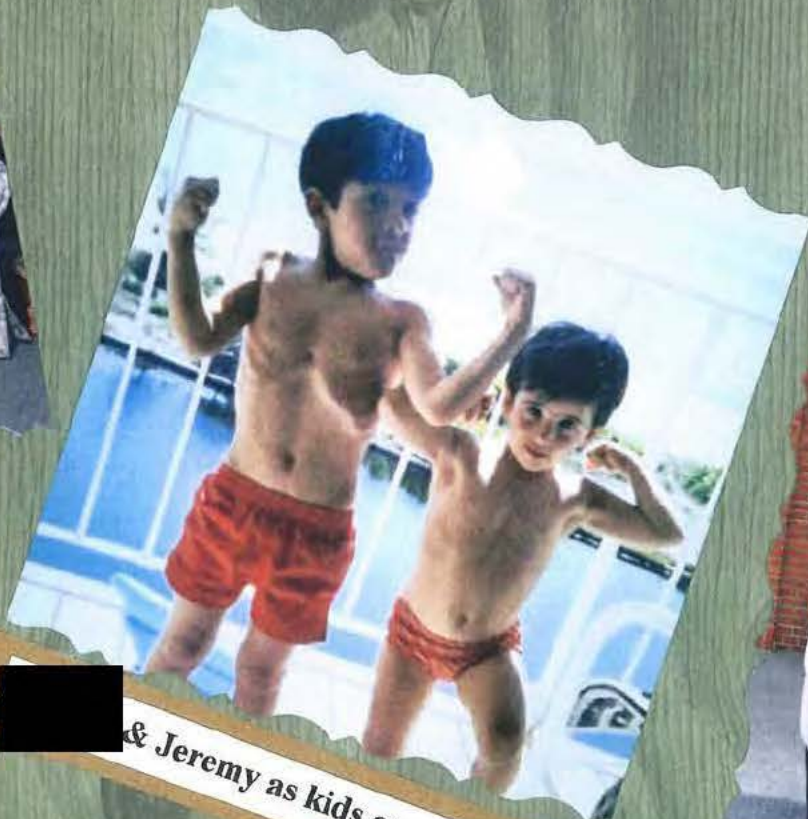
New Kitchen Floor



Our Wedding



COUSINS



[Redacted] & Jeremy as kids on vacation



ILLY

I fell in love with Tara for a lot of reasons. We enjoy all of the same activities and are always finishing each other's sentences. I love her laugh and also the way that she is so level headed in any situation. We both are very caring for our family members and would do anything for anybody at the drop of a hat. We both love pets and will always have dogs. We enjoy taking long road trips and can ride in a car for hours without even turning on the radio. We will laugh and make jokes like it's the first day we met. She fits into my family like she has been around forever. She is a great mother. She is caring and compassionate and children light up around her.



I fell in love with Jeremy for so many reasons. Where do I begin? He is my partner, my equal and my rock in life. He has such a huge heart it's a gift he shares with so many others. We enjoy so many of the same things that we are rarely apart for very long. He has an amazing sense of humor and makes me smile and laugh every day. Our connection is very deep and more often than not he can finish my sentences. Our family finds this uncanny on how often it really happens. He has had my heart since day one and continues to make me step back and think wow how did I get so lucky to find such a great person to share my life with! Watching him become a father has only made my love for him grow, he's a natural!



Our infertility and return to faith

Jeremy attended church regularly growing up as well as attending religious education classes. He went through his confirmation as well and religion was a regular part of his life. He also did a lot of volunteer work through the church serving meals at the Bingo hall, delivering Thanksgiving/Easter groceries to those less fortunate in the community, and helping as needed at other fundraising events for the church. When he went off to college religion played a smaller role but the community service stayed with him as he would always help those in need. Tara attended church regularly as a child also. The family would go every Sunday and was a large part of her life in her youth. As time went on attending church was less regular. Just after we began dating Tara was up front that she was unable to have children for health reasons but Jeremy knew where there was a will there was a way. Before we began this process we started attending church again to guide us through the emotional and stressful adoption journey. We pray daily and when we are in need of reassurance we leave that to our faith. We still do not attend church every week but go as often as we can. Everything in life happens for a reason which is why we are together and going through this exciting time together.



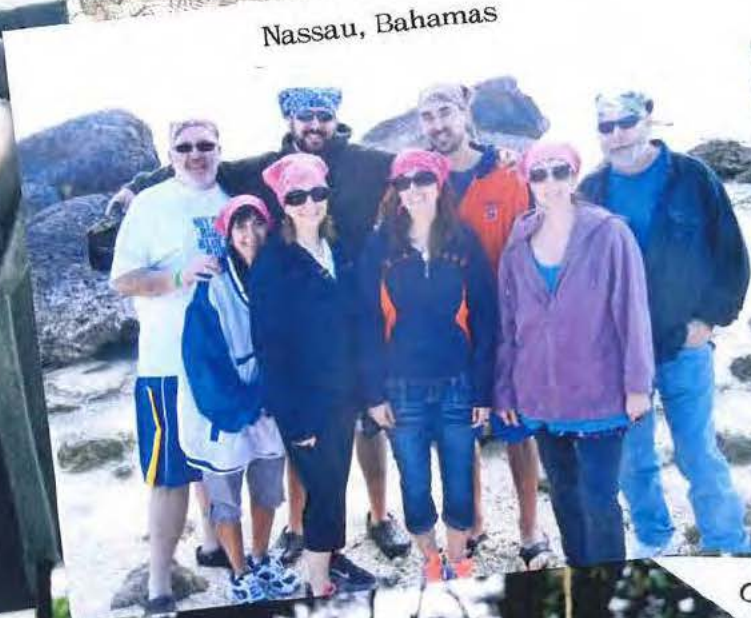
adventure

Our Vacation

Freeport, Bahamas



Nassau, Bahamas



sightseeing



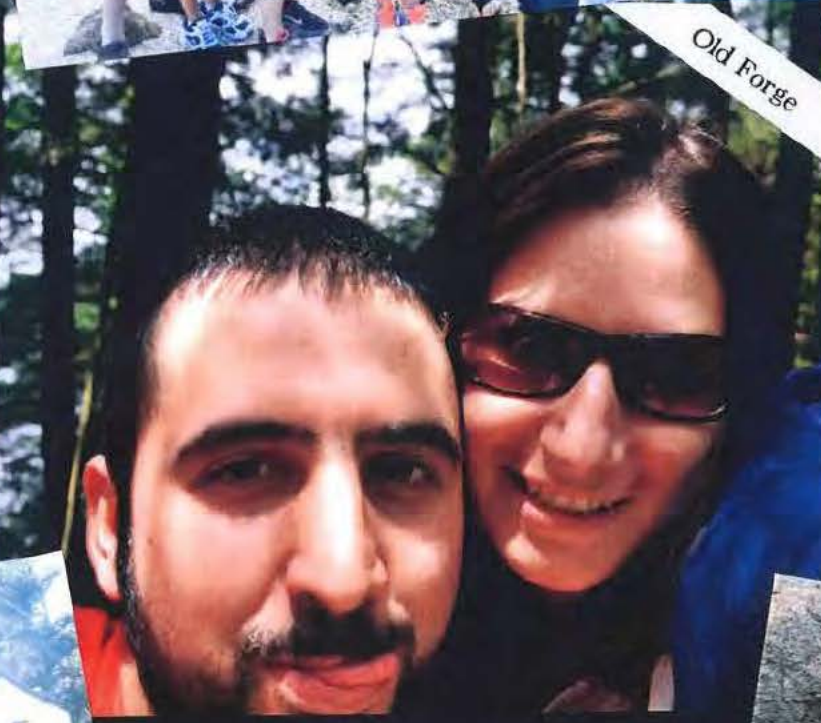
Lake Placid



Jamesville



Old Forge



Key West



LITTLE WHITEFACE ELEV. 3678ft.



Aruba



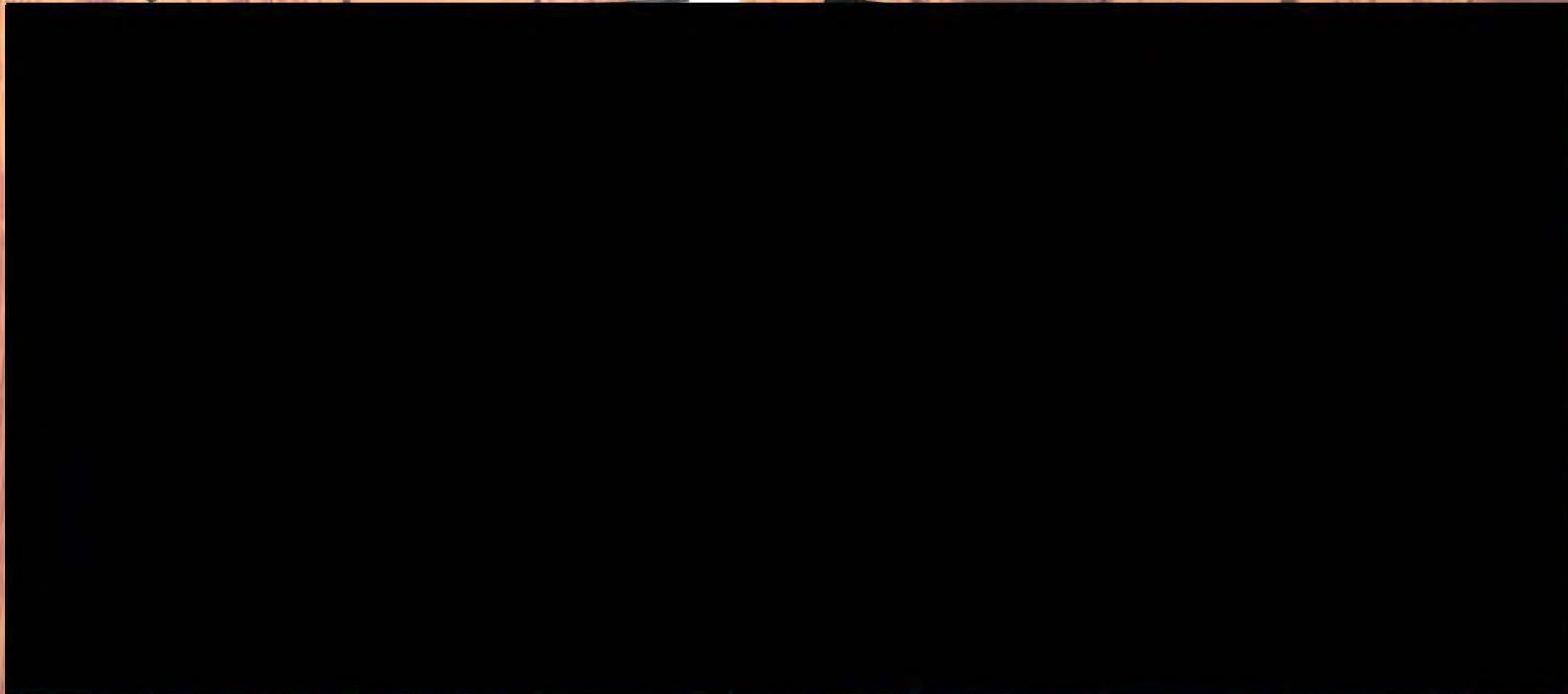
TRAVEL



We truly appreciate you taking the time to look into our lives and the life that we will be able to provide for a child. We know this is an extremely difficult process for you as well, but know that this step will help fill a void in our lives that we cannot fill on our own. We know that we will make GREAT parents because of the way that our families have taught us to love and care for one another. We will have the support from our friends and family. All of our friends and family are beginning families and we will be able to raise our child with theirs and we can grow together, travel together, and experience the joys of parenthood together. We love our home and neighborhood because of the family friendly environment. The baby's grandparents will be there for us as a wonderful support. Our families traditions will be passed down and continue to hold our family together as Grandma [redacted] has shared with us.

Thank you ~

[Signature] + Sara



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

NEW HOPE FAMILY SERVICES, INC.,

5:18-CV-1419 (MAD/TWD)

Plaintiff,

vs.

SHEILA J. POOLE, in her official capacity
as Acting Commissioner for the Office of
Children and Family Services for the State
of New York,

**AFFIDAVIT OF JUSTIN
BLEUER IN SUPPORT OF
NEW HOPE FAMILY
SERVICES' MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Defendant.

1. My name is Justin Bleuer.
2. I am above the age of 18, of sound mind, and I have personal knowledge of the facts explained in this document.
3. I grew up in western New York near Buffalo, the fifth of 14 kids. My parents adopted eleven of my brothers and sisters.
4. My parents adopted from all over the world, so I have siblings from the United States, Sierra Leone, Guatemala, Korea, and Liberia. Our friends used to joke that we were a "United Nations family."
5. Two of my siblings came to us through New Hope Family Services. That was over 20 years ago, but I still remember how different those adoption experiences were for our family. New Hope incorporated its Christian faith and values at every stage of each adoption. Christian faith was something that was important to my family growing up and remains important to me now that I am an adult and a pastor at a local church. Back then, New Hope's Christian focus made my family eager to work with them.

6. It was a blessing for me to grow up with adopted brothers and sisters. So I always desired to follow in my parents' footsteps and adopt. I had seen firsthand the positive impact adoption has on a family and the child that is brought into that family. When I met my wife, Annie, I was pleased to find out that she had the same desire to pursue adoption at some point in our marriage.

7. Annie and I got married in 2005 and by 2011 we had two kids of our own. Then in 2013 we lost a baby to miscarriage. That sparked something in both Annie and I to start thinking more seriously about adopting.

8. When Annie and I began to seriously consider adopting, we knew we wanted to work with New Hope. Through my parents, I had experience with adoption agencies. But I wanted our Christian faith to be an integral part of the process and so we went straight to New Hope.

9. At New Hope we found shared Christian values about the family, respect for life and care for orphans. New Hope's approach to adoption was anchored in the Bible. Prayer was included in meetings and at every step of the process. I saw the staff show true Christian love for the people they served – both birth parents, and adoptive parents. Staff walked with birth families through tough situations and decisions, while prayerfully preparing adopting families to bring a new child into their home. Everything was focused on Biblical teachings about hope, healing, the value of new life, the dignity of every person, and most importantly the gift of family.

10. Staff members told us right away that New Hope's primary goal is not to find children for families, but to serve the babies and mothers they work with to find each child a permanent, loving home that will fit their individual needs and situations.

11. New Hope's Christian faith was obvious to us when we adopted our baby girl. New Hope was working with a particular birth mother and our application moved quicker than most because we were willing to adopt a baby from a different race. She selected us to adopt her baby girl. We were thrilled. Then days before the birth, the birth mom decided she wanted an open adoption, rather than the semi-open one we had arranged. New Hope prayerfully walked both families through that process and we settled on an open adoption arrangement that has worked well for both families.

12. About the same time that the birth mom chose us to adopt her little girl, we found out that Annie was pregnant again. So in March 2014, we welcomed our then 3-day-old little girl into our home, and in July 2014 we had a baby boy.

13. Since then we have had another son, growing our family to five children.

14. As part of the process with New Hope, Annie and I created a family album. It was designed to help birth mothers get to know us as they tried to decide whether to place their baby with us. New Hope staff gave us advice about putting this book together and they reviewed and provided suggestions and edits before we

finalized the book. A true and correct copy of excerpts from that book are attached as Exhibit 1.

15. New Hope has continued to provide care for us, our birth mom, and our baby even after the adoption. They facilitated meetings for our family and the birth family. Initially, those meetings were at New Hope. They also facilitate ongoing correspondence between our family and our daughter's birth family. Every few months we send letters and pictures to New Hope and they provide those to our daughter's birth mom and dad. They will continue to do this for us until she is 18. New Hope is able to facilitate these meetings and correspondence so well because of the close relationship we, and our birth mom, have built with the New Hope staff, through the joys and challenges of the adoption process. It would be hard for us and our birth mom to replicate that with another agency.

16. Annie and I are aware of different adoption agencies, including secular ones. We chose to work with New Hope because it is different, the people there share our Christian views about what it means to be family. Because of that, Annie and I are open to adopting again, but we would only want to work with New Hope.

17. Similarly, we would not be comfortable adopting through New Hope if New Hope changed its Christian beliefs. If New Hope changes its religious beliefs about family, it could no longer provide the consistent Christian-based adoption experience that we and the birth mother we worked with enjoyed.

///

///

///
///
///

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed this 30 day of November, 2018, at Greene New York.


Justin Bleuer

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF Chenango)

On the 30th day of November, 2018, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said state, personally appeared Justin Bleuer, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the person or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

JANETTE S. ZINDLE
Notary Public, State of New York
Residing in Chenango County
My Commission Expires 5/15/2023


Notary Public