



Mark Meyer

State Senator • 32nd Senate District

In response to your recent request.

I thought you might be interested
in the enclosed material.

Please review and contact me.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryan".

P.O. Box 7882, Madison, WI 53707-7882
(608) 266-5490 • www.legis.state.wi.us



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 26, 2001

Dear Advocate for Children:

In 1999, as part of the FY 2000 and 2001 Foreign Relations Authorization Act, P.L. 106-113, Congress enacted Section 236, Issuance of Passports for Children Under Age 14. On June 4, 2001, the Department of State published as a final rule the regulation implementing this program. 66 FR 29904. Effective July 2, 2001, any person applying for a U.S. passport on behalf of a child under 14 must demonstrate that both parents consent to the issuance of a passport or that the applying parent has sole authority to obtain one. If the second parent is unable to appear when the passport application is filed, the applying parent may provide the absent parent's written statement of consent. In special family circumstances or in exigent circumstances necessitating the immediate travel of the child, the Department is authorized to make exceptions to the general two-parent consent requirements.

The purpose of the new requirement, that the consent of both parents be demonstrated, is to lessen the possibility that a U.S. passport might be obtained to further an international parental child abduction.

This statute reflects a major change in the passport issuance process for children. Before this change, either parent was deemed authorized to apply for a child's passport, unless one of the parents had previously registered his or her objection with the Department of State. After July 2, 2001, the Department will require either that both parents execute the child's passport application; that the applying parent provides documentation of sole authority to obtain the child's passport; or, that the non-applying parent consents in writing to issuance.

In general, it is expected that a parent applying alone will be able to satisfy the statute using documents or a statement to establish the concurrence of the other parent. The regulation sets out the documents by which the sole parent may establish their authority to obtain a passport for a child under 14 without the concurrence of the other parent. A written authorization from the non-applying parent will also satisfy the requirement.

We anticipate that for most parents the new requirement will not be a problem. However, it is clear that in some families one of the parents is no longer available when a child needs to travel abroad. In these cases, the single parent may wish to obtain a specific court order either recognizing, or decreeing, that the applying parent has the parental authority to unilaterally obtain a passport. Attached is a suggested single-purpose Finding and Order that will fulfill the requirement of the statute. In planning custody agreements and orders, attorneys of divorcing parents should consider a provision of parental authority to apply for a passport for children under 14.

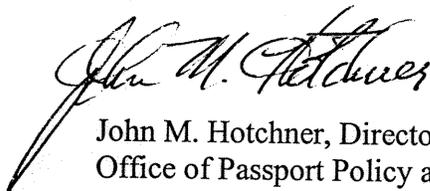
I would like to point out that the new statute does not provide for notification of the non-applying parent when a passport application is filed; nor does it apply to the passport applications of children over the age of 14. Parents and their attorneys who are concerned that a child under the age of 18 years may become the victim of an international parental child abduction should request that the child's name be included in the passport name check system through the State Department's Children's Passport Issuance Alert Program.

To make use of this program, the parent or attorney should provide the child's full name, date of birth, place of birth, the requesting parent or attorney's address and phone number and a copy of applicable court orders. The requesting parent will be notified when a passport application is received for the child. Moreover, if the Department has on file an order from a court of competent jurisdiction providing either for joint custody or sole custody to the requesting parent or restricting the child's travel the passport will be denied. The child's name will remain in the system until the child reaches 18 or the requesting parent asks that it be removed. This program may be reached at:

Office of Children's Issues
Bureau of Consular Affairs
U.S. Department of State
2401 E Street NW, Suite L127
Washington, D.C. 20524
Phone: (202) 663-2613
FAX: (202) 663-2674

Finally, if you have questions about the two-parent consent requirement, please contact Sharon Palmer-Royston, Chief, Passport Legal at (202) 663-2430, or Consuelo Pachon, Attorney Adviser (202) 663-2431. We appreciate your assistance in distributing information about this new passport requirement to your membership.

Sincerely,



John M. Hotchner, Director
Office of Passport Policy and
Legal Advisory Services

Attachment:

Suggested Single Purpose Court Order

(608) 326-8089

Mohammed
Ardestani

(608) 326-0480

Loni Long

(414) 273-3500

Mike Apfeld

608 326-2466
ext. 3370

Mohammed
Ardestani
at work

STATE OF WISCONSIN

To Dan
Date 5/3 Time 1:25

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Mike Apfeld
of _____
Phone 414 273 3500

Telephoned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Please Call	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Called to See You	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rush	<input type="checkbox"/>
Returned Your Call	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will Call Again	<input type="checkbox"/>

Message Re: Senate Bill-89
Assembly Bill -220



Party Receiving Call

STATE OF WISCONSIN

To _____
Date _____ Time _____

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Bill Cooley
of _____
Phone _____

Telephoned	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please Call	<input type="checkbox"/>
Called to See You	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rush	<input type="checkbox"/>
Returned Your Call	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will Call Again	<input type="checkbox"/>

Message A Tremendous amount
of e-mail on Lori long
Bill ask Dave to give
response / After Daves resp
will send a response



Party Receiving Call

STATE OF WISCONSIN

To Dan
Date 5/3 Time 11:58

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Rep. DuWayne Johnson
of _____
Phone 6-3534

Telephoned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Please Call	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Called to See You	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rush	<input type="checkbox"/>
Returned Your Call	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will Call Again *	<input type="checkbox"/>

Message _____



DJ
Party Receiving Call

Conversations w/ Lucy Cooper

5-07-01

delay effective date of the bill

any time you have to go into court there is a potential for blackmail

Marty Gagne 4/273-5551

Leznick case

Israeli case

matter was heard and determined to violate the order

time to educate lawyers, court commissioners, judges

Wisconsin Lawyer

Wis Journal of Family Law

Wis. Law Journal

adequate notice

time to change all of forms

Wis. Legal Branch to put a new addendum in the form materials that

could set up hundreds of people for a contempt

time to inform GAL population



Wisconsin State Legislature

Mark Meyer

State Senator
32nd Senate District

DuWayne Johnsrud

State Representative
96th Assembly District

Monday, May 7, 2001

Honorable Gary George
State Senator
Room 118 South
State Capitol P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

RE: Senate Bill 89 / Assembly Bill 220

Dear Senator George:

Thank you for your response regarding Senate Bill 89 / Assembly Bill 220. We appreciate you taking the time to respond to our request for speedy consideration of this bill. We thought it would be appropriate to reply to the concerns you have with this legislation prior to our meeting on Tuesday.

Although there is no doubt that this bill was prompted by Lori Long's specific situation, bills are often drafted because a particular case has demonstrated an inadequacy in existing law that needs to be corrected by new legislation. Ms. Long did bring this issue to our attention, but this legislation is in no way a "private" bill. Indeed, if it is enacted, its effect on Ms. Long's particular situation will be solely determined by the courts of Wisconsin. As a result, this bill has not been drafted to specifically help Ms. Long in her case, but to protect the children of Wisconsin whose lives may be adversely affected by being taken to a country from which they may never return.

We feel it is important to clarify that the countries noted in this bill were not singled out for their ethnic, cultural or religious differences from the United States or Wisconsin. This legislation is in no way an attempt to discriminate against countries that are ethnically or culturally different from Wisconsin. The sole reason these countries were targeted is their failure to sign the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which is an international treaty that establishes procedures to ensure the safe return of abducted children. The Hague Convention is part of the supreme law of the United States under the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution. It was signed and ratified by the United States as a continuation of present policy **to protect whenever possible the rights of the child.**

At the present time, the United States has **no law** that prohibits children from traveling to countries that are not party to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. However, the Department of State does specifically warn parents that if children are taken to non-signatory countries, then even the parents themselves may not be able to bring the children back if the country in question blocks their exit. If that happens, the United States is powerless to intervene because of the absence of a controlling treaty.

Senate Bill 89 / Assembly Bill 220 is designed to help the children of Wisconsin in cases where travel to a foreign country may place their freedom in jeopardy. The bill sets up some minimal safeguards in the interests of these children. It is important to also note that a child **may** be taken to a non-Hague country if both parents agree to the trip. And, if both parents do not agree, an amendment to AB 220 allows the parent who has been denied the trip to appeal to the courts, where a judge may decide the question of prohibiting or granting travel.

Additionally, we believe that this bill serves an educational purpose for parents in custody situations. For example, one or both parents may not know that the country they intend to visit is not a party to the Hague Convention, and this bill puts them on notice so that they can make an informed decision. AB 220 not only attempts to prevent legal parental abduction, but also the detainment of children in foreign countries. In some countries, there may be civil war or insurrection, drafting of children into the army, or political hostility toward the United States that could lead a government to retaliate against the United States by denying an exit visa to the children.

Perhaps an even greater problem for many children traveling to non-Hague countries is that they may have dual nationality. They are American citizens because they were born in the United States, but many of them are also citizens of non-Hague countries by virtue of their parentage. Thus, the children can be forced to remain in a non-Hague country and the United States has no recourse to get them back. Often times, the parent who took the children out of the United States can use the domestic laws of the non-Hague countries to restrict the child's departure. And even if one or both parents want to return to the United States, they may not be able to persuade the non-Hague government to give them or the children permission to leave.

We believe this bill represents a **modest** step forward in the protection of the children of Wisconsin. Child abduction is a widespread problem in the United States, and many cases are never resolved. According to the Department of State Office of Children's Issues, 804 child abduction cases remain unresolved as of December 15, 2000. **These numbers do not even include the cases of child abduction that are not reported to the federal government.**

Wisconsin has always been heralded as a progressive state, and enactment of this legislation would pave the way for other states to take the lead in establishing safeguards to prevent children from being abducted to or illegally detained in foreign countries. We feel very strongly about the merits of the bill and believe it will open up a national dialogue about the common occurrences of child abduction to and detainment in foreign countries. Again, **we want to reiterate that this bill is neither an attempt to discriminate against countries that are ethnically or culturally different than Wisconsin nor an attempt to regulate parental rights. This bill simply is an effort to limit travel to foreign countries where there is a possibility that children will remain indefinitely.**

Thank you for your consideration of this bill. We look forward to meeting with you to further discuss these issues, and we hope that action on this bill will be taken so it can be placed on the Senate floor for debate on Tuesday. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mark Meyer
State Senator
32nd Senate District



DuWayne Johnsrud
State Representative
96th Assembly District

MM/DJ: je



Mark Meyer

State Senator • 32nd Senate District
P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

Honorable Gary George
State Senator
Room 118 South
State Capitol P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Conversation w/ Linda Benth

5-7-01

Like preventative aspect of the bill
it's easier to prevent a child
from being placed in situation
where they might not

Require both parents to sign a USA
form for a minor

Could become a real bargaining chip
o.k. you can take the kids
but you can have them for
summer vacation or Christmas
or Easter or whatever

Domestic abuse situations
really cuts both ways
could perpetuate the abuse

Fax Cover Sheet

Mane Street Designs
 135 N. Marquette Rd.
 Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
 608-326-8267
 608-326-8748

Send to: Senator Gary George	From: Mary M. Long
Attention:	Date: May 6, 2001
Office Location: Madison, WI 53707-7882	Office Location: 135 N. Marquette Rd. Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
Fax Number: 608-266-7381	Phone Number: 608-326-8267

- Urgent
- Reply ASAP
- Please comment
- Please Review
- For your Information

Total pages, including cover: 2

Comments:

Senator George, please review this carefully. Thank you for your consideration.

MARY M. LONG
MANE STREET DESIGNS
MANE STREET GETAWAYS

.....
135 N. Marquette Rd.
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
608-326-8267
Fax 608-326-8748

getaways@mhtc.net

May 6, 2001

Senator Gary George
Room 118 South
State Capital
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator George:

This letter is in reference to the Lori Long bill. Senator George I am aware that you are very much in favor of Father's rights. I too agree with you. I think Father's should have fair rights to their children. I commend you on their behalf.

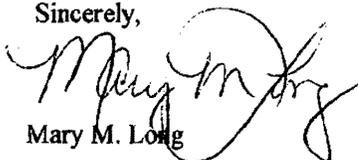
Senator George, this bill has nothing to do with Father's rights or even Grandparents rights. This is an American Children's Safety Issue. Check into all the issues dealing with Iran. Children are abducted weekly. They are not recognized as American Citizens. We have no American Embassy in Iran, which speaks volumes. There is no protection for these children there. If the Father were from a country that the U.S. had relations with, this would be a different issue.

I feel for the Iranian family wanting to see their Grandchildren, however their country and the surrounding countries are just too hostile. Children are enlisted in their Army at age 12, now I understand it's age 6. (Which is completely not understandable). The Father's family should come here, however they are unable to obtain Visa's. This is another issue that speaks volumes. So, we should let our children go there? This would be a great travesty Senator George.

Please, do your homework well. When you do this... ask yourself if you would want to send your children. Senator George, please pass this to the Senate Floor, I implore you.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this issue.

Sincerely,


Mary M. Long

GODFREY & KAHN, S. C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
780 NORTH WATER STREET
MILWAUKEE, WI 53202-3590
www.gklaw.com

PHONE: 414-273-3500

FAX: 414-273-5198

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: May 4, 2001

PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 3

TO: Dan Rossmiller

FAX: 608-266-7381

CLIENT NUMBER: 999995-0065

FROM: Michael B. Apfeld, Ext. 5500

MESSAGE: Attached is the Order Denying Motion to Prohibit Respondent from Removing Minor Children from the United States.

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM RECEIVING THIS TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AT 414-273-3500.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL USE OF THE DESIGNATED RECIPIENTS NAMED ABOVE. This message may be an attorney-client communication, and as such is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or an agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us by mail. Thank you.

Sent By: _____

5/2

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT

CRAWFORD COUNTY

In re the marriage of:

LORI LONG, f/k/a
LORI ARDESTANI

Petitioner,

and

MOHAMMAD ARDESTANI

Respondent.

Case No. 98-FA-47
Divorce: 40101

Donna M. Steiner, Clerk
Crawford County, Wis.

MAY 22 2000

Clerk of Circuit Court Office
FILED

ORDER DENYING MOTION TO PROHIBIT RESPONDENT
FROM REMOVING MINOR CHILDREN FROM THE UNITED STATES

A Motion for Order Prohibiting Respondent from Removing Minor Children from the United States filed by Petitioner having come on for a hearing before the Circuit Court for Crawford County, Wisconsin, the Honorable Michael Kirchman, Circuit Judge, presiding, on the 5th day of May, 2000, with the following appearances: Petitioner, Lori Long, f/k/a Lori Ardestani, appearing in person and by her attorneys, Czajkowski & Rider, S.C., by James P. Czajkowski; Respondent, Mohammad Ardestani, appearing in person and without counsel; Attorney Gregory S. Bonney appearing as Guardian Ad Litem for the minor children.

Upon all the records, files and proceedings had herein, including the evidence presented to the Court at the time of the hearing, and after considering the sworn testimony by Respondent that he would return the minor children to the United States of America after visits with his family in the country of Iran, and after considering the reports and statements submitted by Dr. Dean Saner, Dr. David Van Dyke, and social worker, Julie Williams, and for the reasons set forth on the record on May 5, 2000,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

R. App. 153

STATE OF WISCONSIN }
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD }

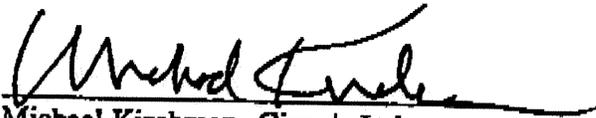
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE
AND CORRECT COPY OF THE DOCUMENT ON FILE
IN MY OFFICE. WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL
SEAL THIS 22nd DAY OF May
19 2000

DONNA M. STEINER, CLERK
BY [Signature]
Deputy

1. Petitioner's motion for an order prohibiting Respondent from removing the minor children from the United States is hereby denied.
2. Upon the request of the Petitioner, Respondent shall provide and properly sign any and all documents necessary with regard to Respondent's pension, Voluntary Investment Program (VIP), and/or retirement benefits with Respondent's employer to provide Petitioner with additional security to insure the return of the minor children to the United States.
3. The passports for the minor children shall be turned over to the Clerk of Court for Crawford County, Wisconsin, until the minor children reach the age of eighteen (18) years, at which time the passports shall be released to the child upon the child's request. The passports shall also be released to either parent upon order of the Court, and shall be released to Respondent to facilitate the removal of the minor children from the United States of America for a visit to the country of Iran during the summer of 2000.
4. The parties shall each reimburse Crawford County for fifty percent (50%) of the Guardian Ad Litem fees within ninety (90) days after the Court executes an order approving the Guardian Ad Litem fees.

Dated at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, this 22nd day of May, 2000.

BY THE COURT:


Michael Kirchman, Circuit Judge

STATE OF WISCONSIN

To Dan
Date 5/3 Time 2:00

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Michael Apfeld
of _____
Phone 414 273-3500

Telephoned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please Call	
Called to See You	Rush	
Returned Your Call	Will Call Again	

Message Got your message
wasn't clear if you needed to
talk with him. If you don't
need him that's ok. If you
do, give him a call



Party Receiving Call

① impairs his contract

② attempts to effect a judgment that has become final

MA has a judgment that allows him to him to take his ch

trying to undo a judgment

It is in

① not pass at all

② not intended to effect any final decrees that parties are intended to travel to another country.

5-3-01

Mike Apfeld

a good compromise

does not address all dangers but
does address the danger at hand

gives objecting parent ability
to compel travelling parent to get a
order

might
add
language
to this
effect
about its
applicability

shall apply only to cases
rights which have been finally
adjudicated prior to the
effective date of the act

Think Mr. Ardeshani could live with this

Not realistic

worst that could happen is that
Mr would have to go before
judge again and say you've already
inconvenience decided this

The provisions of this bill will not
apply to any parent who has obtained
parent consent to travel like a child

to a country specified in ch. (1)
prior to the effective date of the bill

Special bill

appears

short of allow

would be satisfactory

this is the issue

racial concerns

thus world countries

Conversation w/ Mike Apfel

5-4-01

If objection launched in bad faith
objecting party can be forced to pay
costs and atty. fees

→ speediness

→ former spouse

→ unavailable or

→ unable to give written notice

could always
get a TRO

substantial opportunity

TIME

integrated to conclusion

May 4, 2001

Senator Gary George
Room 118 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7882

re: Senate Bill 89 / Assembly Bill 220: International Custody Abduction Prevention

Dear Senator George:

I encourage you to support Senate Bill 89 / Assembly Bill 220 to protect children at risk of losing access to their mothers. I am an American Muslim mother who lost my two children following their abduction to the Middle East. Because of my experience in the Islamic, Shari'a court in trying to gain access to my children, I have testified before Congress, spoken before the Foreign Service Institute for the Department of State, contracted to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and provided training workshops for the California Bar Association on the topic of the risk of international custody abduction to the Islamic countries. I provide expert witness services in custody disputes across the country in an effort to reduce the number of children removed from the jurisdiction of the United States. The Department of State's statistics show that an average of one American child is abducted to or unlawfully retained within the Islamic world every week. My personal experience is that my case-load is such that I must restrict my testimony assignments to one per month.

Within the past few months, my cases have included:

- Travel restrictions for a 9-year old Maryland boy whose father sought to take him to Saudi Arabia.
- Permission to travel to Iran for a 7-year old boy from California with the establishment of protective measures and return guarantees.
- Travel restrictions for an 11-year old girl and 7-year old boy from South Carolina whose father sought to take them to Iran.
- Permission to travel to Hague countries for a 7-year old boy from Michigan with his father from Iran, with establishment of protective measures and return guarantees.
- Travel restrictions for a 5-year old girl from Ohio whose father sought to take her to Pakistan.
- Travel restrictions for a 2-year old girl from Florida whose father sought to take her to Jordan.

Senator George
May 4, 2001
page 2

In June I am scheduled to testify in Ohio on behalf of a 3-year old girl whose father seeks to take her into the occupied territories of Palestine. Next week, I testify in Denver in an effort to protect a 7-year old boy. I had provided testimony this past summer in Indiana, but prior to the Judge's final order, the three children were abducted by their father into Saudi Arabia.

This is a horrible and traumatic crime against children, and we must make every effort to reduce the risk. The best protection we can give these children is to assure that they will remain within the jurisdiction of the American courts, where the child's right of access to both parents is respected. We must not make it easier to lose these children by allowing travel into countries where their American citizenship, religion, and rights of access to both parents is not recognized. Even if the intent is for the children to return to the United States, once inside the destination country, many fathers are pressured by their family to remain.

The risk of an American child being abducted over a custody dispute is a function of likelihood and remedy. For children abducted to or unlawfully retained in the non-Hague countries, there is no legal mechanism by which the left-behind parent can seek return of their child. The non-Hague countries are those countries that have decided not to agree to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, a majority of which include the Middle-Eastern Muslim nations. The Muslim countries apply Islamic, Shari'a law to issues relating to the family, and they do not recognize secular, American court decisions regarding divorce or custody. Important concerns of dual national families facing divorce / custody disputes include:

- The father retains legal custody of all children. American court orders assigning custody to the mother are not recognized.
- The children are Muslim. I have worked with a number of abducted American children raised as Christians who have been beaten and forced to comply with religious instruction.
- The mother's access to her children is at the whim of the father – in some countries, such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the biological mother of abducted children is prohibited from entering the country to see her children without the father's permission.
- There is no legal mechanism or process available by which the abducted child can be returned to the United States or a left-behind parent can establish visitation rights.

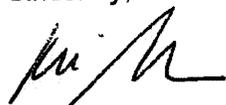
For these reasons, the Muslim nations have been a haven for abducting fathers. It is recognized that the governments of the Muslim nations do not encourage child kidnapping, but once within the jurisdiction of the Islamic, Shari'a court, the Islamic rights of the father to control the upbringing of his child is honored. As a Muslim and a mother

Senator George
May 4, 2001
page 3

of two abducted children, I understand that the only country that honors a child's right of access to both parents is the United States.

Wisconsin's efforts to protect our children will become a model for other states. A left-behind mother in Texas who lost her 2-year old son to Egypt, as well as the mother in the Maryland case cited above, are both initiating action in their home states based on Senate Bill 89 / Assembly Bill 220. My testimony in Denver next week hopes to cite the passage of your new law protecting children at risk. Please contact me @ (541) 754-002 if you have any questions or if you are in need of additional information. In the interim, please contact the Office of Children's Issues, Department of State @ (202) 663-2628 if you would like to speak to the officers who can provide you with an understanding of the magnitude of need for this law.

Sincerely,



Kristine Uhlman / UmHani
www.UmHani.net
5631 SW Redtop Place
Corvallis, Oregon 97333
(541) 754-0002
(541) 753-4404

Kristine Uhlman / UmHani
131 NW 4th St. # 272
Corvallis, OR 97330
www.UmHani.net email: UmHani@aol.com
(541) 754-0002 fax: 753-4404

The **Risk** of custody abduction to the Middle Eastern, Islamic countries can be understood as a function of **Likelihood** and **Remedy**. Abduction of a child to the Middle East is a too frequent occurrence; return of an abducted child, through legal means, has never been achieved. There is no legal **Remedy**, no process, and no legal authority to return an abducted child to the United States. Since the custody abduction of my two children in 1981, I have come to learn and understand the Islamic, Shari'a law as it relates to divorce and custody. I have worked with parents and lawyers to characterize **Risk**, and I have assisted in establishing protective measures to reduce the number of children unlawfully separated from their custodial parent.

Consulting Assignments:

- **AFCC: "Do Great Work, See Great Works"** – Family Court and Community Professionals and Los Angeles County Superior Court Family Court Services, Workshop: Abduction Into the Islamic World: Prediction and Prevention with Elaine Tumonis, J.D., Deputy Attorney General (presentation and proceedings). Lunch speaker: "Life Behind the Veil in Saudi Arabia", February 2-4, 2001.
- **Law.com "Kids and the Law: Juvenile Justice and Child Law Practice"** – Seminar Workshop: Children at Risk and International Custody Abduction. November 6-17, 2000.
- **2000 Annual Meeting of the State Bar of California** – workshop presentation, International Custody Abduction into the Islamic World. September 16, 2000.
- **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children** – contracted author of *Solomon's Protocol, a guide to prevention and an approach to surviving custody abduction to the Islamic world*. In press. Publication (2000) and distribution through NCMEC, partial funding by the Dept. of Justice.
- **US Department of State, Office of Children's Issues** - contracted speaker to the Advanced Consular Course, Foreign Service Institute, Arlington, Virginia (1999). Custody abduction to Saudi Arabia and the Islamic countries.

Publications:

Uhlman, K., *International Custody Abduction into the Islamic World*.
Association of Certified Family Law Specialists 'ACFLS' Newsletter,
Winter 2000, No. 4, pp. 11- 13.

Congressional Hearings:

- June 15, 1987 – House of Representatives: Committee on Foreign Affairs Hearing on Human Rights Violations against United States Citizens by the Government of Saudi Arabia
- September 22, 1981 – House of Representatives: Unified Child Custody Law Hearings on the Federal Bureau of Investigation involvement to intercept abducted children.

Media Coverage:

- **Washington Post**, December 24, 2000, International Custody Abduction.
- **Northwest Afternoon**, KOMOTV, Seattle, WA, October 12, 2000 'American Women Overseas and Domestic Violence'
- **Court TV**, The Johnnie Cochran Show, August 2, 1999 'International Custody Abduction, legal challenges'
- **INSIDE EDITION**, July 9, 1996 'International Parental Abduction'
- ***For the Love of a Child***, Betty Mahmoody (with Arnold Dunchock) 1993, Saint Martins Press, New York, 336 pp. The story of my abducted children can be found on pages 50-55, hardcover edition.
- **Phil Donahue Show**, October 23, 1990: Saudi Arabia and the Gulf War, abducted children in the War Zone.
- **Phil Donahue Show**, January 7, 1988 w/ Betty Mahmoody, author of the book and movie, ***Not Without My Daughter***
- National Public Radio, 1988; Christian Science Monitor International (Radio) – 1988; ABC, NBC, CBS, & CNN coverage 1987-to current.
- USA TODAY, Chicago Tribune, Denver Post, and several UPI and United Feature Syndicate (Jack Anderson) wire stories – 1981 to current.

Other Affiliations:

- Senator Alan J. Dixon (Illinois) – efforts to support legislation addressing international custody abductions, 1987-1990, resulting in an Amendment to Title 18 of the U.S. Code to punish as a Federal Criminal Offense the Crime of International Parental Custody Abduction, January 23, 1990.
- ONE WORLD: FOR CHILDREN – Betty Mahmoody, Oswego, Michigan.

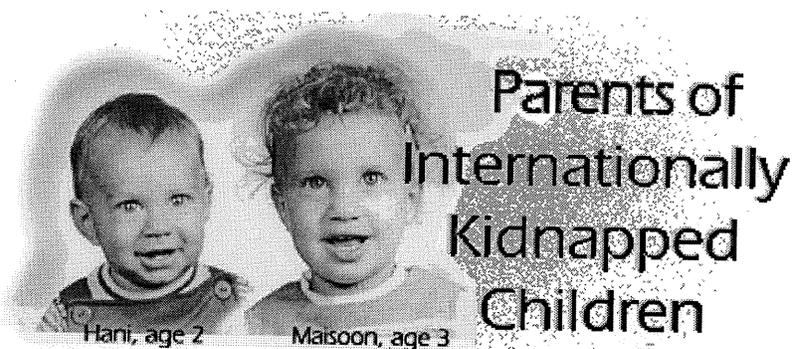
Education and Training:

- Islamic Studies, University of Petroleum and Minerals Mosque, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, 1979-1981
- MS Civil Engineering, Ohio State University – 1975
- BS, Hydrology, University of Arizona, including course work in comparative religions – 1974

Selected Case Listing: **Expert Witness** opinion on risk of international custody abduction and the legal remedy available to victim parent if abduction to the Middle East occurs. Scope of testimony includes Islamic, Shari'a law as it relates to parent's and children's rights during divorce and custody disputes.

- South Carolina, County of Greenville, Family Court – Trial Testimony / 2001
- Virginia, Circuit Court of the County of Enrico – Trial Testimony / 2001
- Ohio, Butler Co. Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations – Trial Testimony / 2001
- Indiana, Vigo County Superior Court – Expert Report, Trial Testimony / 2000
- Wisconsin, Circuit Court, Family Court Branch, Crawford County – Trial Testimony / 2000
- Maryland, Circuit Court for Montgomery County – Expert Report, Trial Testimony / 2000
- Ohio, Court of Common Pleas, Lucas County – Affidavit / 2000
- Virginia, Circuit Court, Fairfax County – Report on International Custody Abductions / 1999
- New Jersey, Superior Court, Chancery Division Hudson County – Risk Assessment, Trial Testimony / 1999
- Oregon, Clackamas County Circuit Court – Affidavit / 1999
- Illinois, Dupage County, Judicial Circuit Court – Affidavit / 1999

UmHani



The risk of abduction cannot be quantified, it can only be understood as a permanent act that cannot be undone. Abduction of a minor American child to the Middle East is a frequent occurrence; return of an abducted child, through legal means, has never been achieved.

If you are fearful for your children's safety or if your children have already been kidnapped to an Islamic country, we can network with other parents in the same situation.

I am Kristine Uhlman [e-mail: Umhani@aol.com]

E-Mail to Ms. Uhlman by clicking here.

Congressional Hearings
Other Affiliations
Article

Media Coverage
Hani Comes Home



In the nearly twenty years since the abduction of my two children in 1981, I have learned and come to understand the Islamic (Shariah) Law as it relates to American parents of dual national children involved in international custody disputes. During these years I have met with lawyers and governmental officials on the national and state level; met with the State Department; met with Saudi government officials at the Saudi Embassies in Montreal and Washington, DC, and at the Royal Palaces in Riyadh and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia; worked with individuals expert in Islamic law and the Hadith (sayings and traditions of the Prophet Mohammed); and worked with other left-behind parents who have gone through experiences similar to mine. I have taken Islamic instruction and am a Moslem. I have represented myself in Shariah court in Saudi Arabia and prepared petitions to the Shariah court in Saudi Arabia with the assistance of lawyers practicing Islamic law.

I am qualified as an expert witness and presented affidavits and evidence in custody dispute hearings in the states of Missouri, Arizona, California, New Jersey, Florida, Tennessee, Michigan, Washington, and in Ontario, Canada. In the case of Abugoush v. Abugoush (New Jersey), my affidavit was utilized specifically for an (abduction) Risk Management Hearing wherein high risk was determined and the court ordered supervised visitation. In the case of Susan (Steyteieh) Miller v. Sharif Ghalib Sharif Steuteyieh (California), supervised visitation wa maintained after my direct testimony. In Sajid Waseem Usmani v. Shane Khoban (Usmani) Haider (Tennessee), my affidavit was utilized to incorporate safeguards during supervised visitation. in the case of Valerie Pitts Alamanseer v. Hamdallah Albaseer Almanaseer (Florida) my affidavit was used to prohibit travel to Jordan during unsupervised visitation.

I have also provided testimony before the House of Representatives in Washington, DC. My testimonies before Congress addressed my difficulty in gaining access to my abducted children held in Saudi Arabia and my experiences with the Shariah court system concerning custody/visitation rights of American parents of dual national children.

■ Congressional Hearings

- September 22, 1981 - House of Representatives: Unified Child Custody Law Hearings on the Federal Bureau of Investigation involvement to intercept abducted children. I testified on the violent kidnapping of my children that occurred on September 11, 1981, and the lack of responsivness on the part of the FBI.
- June 15, 1987 - House of Representatives: Committee on Foreign Affairs Hearing on Human Rights Violations against United States Citizens by the Government of Saudi Arabia. I testified about my experiences in Riyadh Prison and the difficulties I encountered trying to litigate for access to my children.

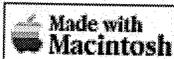
■ Media Coverage

- **NorthWest Afternoon**, KOMO TV, Seattle WA, October 12, 2000, "American Women Overseas"
- **Court TV**, The Johnnie Cochran Show, August 2, 1999, "International Custody Abductions, Legal Challenges."
- **Inside Edition**, July 9, 1996, "International Parental Abduction"
- **The Phil Donahue Show**, January 7, 1988 with Betty Mahmoody, author of the book and movie, Not Without My Daughter
- **The Phil Donahue Show**, October 23, 1990, during the Gulf War
- **National Public Radio**, 1988 / Christian Science Monitor - International (Radio) - 1988
- **Network Television coverage**; ABC, NBC, CBS, and CNN "International Focus" and local affiliates "Inside Edition", July 1996 - 1987 through current
- **Article USA Today, Chicago Tribune, Denver Post** and several UPI and United Feature Syndicate (Jack Anderson) wire stories - 1981 to current
- **The National Geographic** - January 1989 (letter to the editor concerning women's rights in Saudia Arabia)

- For the Love of a Child, Mahmoody, Betty (with Arnold Dunchock), 1993, Saint Martins Press, New York, 336 pp. My story can be found on pages 50-55 in the hardcover edition.
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■ Other Affiliations

- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCMEC, <http://www.missingkids.com>,
 - Author of: Solomaon's Protocol, a guide to prevention and an approach to surviving custody abduction to the Islamic World. Publication pending.
 - One World for Children: Betty Mahmoody - Oswego, Michigan
 - American Children Held Hostage: Holly Planells - New York
 - Senator Alan J. Dixon (Illinois) - I supported the Senetor's efforts to initiate legislation addressing international custody abductions, 1987 through 1990, resulting in an Amendment to Title 18 of the U.S. Code to punish as a Federal Criminal Offense the Crime of International Parental Custody Abductions, January 23, 1990. With a group of other left-behind parents, we assisted in the establishment of the office of Children's Issues at the Department of State.
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Conversation w/ Mohammed Andestani 5-04-01

Effect of amended bill - it will force Mr. Andestani to go back to court

She will appeal decision - so that the trip will not happen

By the time this gets over his parents may be dead. She is trying to drag this out

Bill will have effects on other people

may discourage foreign nationals dual-citizenship status
There are a lot of other people similarly situated

Not the first trip, took children in 1992 in 1997

Right now, this is just about us. But if we pass this bill it will be about others

could have taken children just after court of appeals decision her passport and visa, was all ready ... didn't go

Better with this amendment but
MA is not OK with this
she'll go to court and it will
be another year + then
another year

Already - he has said will not
keep children - Iranian official
has testified that

His brother and sister-in-law are
here - in Wisconsin

Willing to come to Madison

If senator would like to talk to
his children he would

Last year lost \$650 on ticket
plus cost of trip to Washington DC
to get exit visa

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

FROM: SENATOR MARK MEYER
REPRESENTATIVE DUWAYNE JOHNSRUD

RE: TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 89

DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2001

Thank you, Chairman George and distinguished Committee members, for allowing us the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 89. Unfortunately, we are unable to attend today's hearing. We are in Madison, testifying on the Assembly companion bill to SB 89 with the constituents who brought this issue to our attention.

Although the introduction of this legislation was in response to a constituent case, we both feel that adoption of SB 89 would prevent future Wisconsin families from undergoing the same pain and disruption that the Lori Long family has suffered. A resident of Prairie du Chien, Lori Long recently lost a court case with the Wisconsin Court of Appeals that would have prevented her ex-husband from taking their four children to Iran. Ms. Long had appealed to our judicial system to prohibit her ex-husband from making this trip because she strongly believed that he would never return with the children.

One of Ms. Long's main concerns was that her ex-husband was planning on taking the children to Iran, a country that does not have diplomatic relations with the United States

and has not signed on to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. In Iran, the Long children would be considered Iranian citizens because their father is Iranian, and Ms. Long would have no legal claim as their mother. Statistics have proven that it is very unlikely for children taken to countries such as Iran to ever return to the United States again. Over the years, the U.S. Department of State has been involved in almost 100 cases where children have been wrongfully taken to Iran, and almost all of these cases have never been resolved.

In its decision to allow Ms. Long's ex-husband to travel to Iran with their children, the Wisconsin Court of Appeals said it found no law that prohibits a parent with joint legal custody from taking a child to a foreign country for up to 90 days. The court made this decision even though it acknowledged that it was possible and maybe even likely that the father would not return with the children and that Ms. Long would have no legal recourse to bring them back to the United States.

Unfortunately in this circumstance, there is nothing the State of Wisconsin can currently do to prevent Ms. Long's ex-husband from leaving the country with their children. However, SB 89 would give the state a mechanism to prevent children from traveling to countries in situations where it is likely that they will not return to the United States. In a time when there are very few federal and state

statutory guidelines in place to prevent potential child abduction, SB 89 is an important first step toward preventing children from illegally being removed to or detained in foreign countries.

Under SB 89, a parent who has periods of physical placement of a child may not take that child to certain foreign countries only if the other parent objects and that country has not ratified ~~or acceded~~ to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. This prohibition applies instead of the current law provision relating to removing a child or establishing a different legal residence with a child. (However, in all other situations regarding removing a child, the current law provision would apply.) Under current law, a parent who has either joint legal custody or periods of physical placement must notify the other parent of his or her intent to remove the child from Wisconsin. This also includes plans to take a child on a trip to a foreign country. If the other parent objects to the move, a court hearing on the objection will be held. However, if the court rules in favor of the parent requesting a move, the child may be taken outside of the state against the objecting parent's wishes.

If enacted into law, SB 89 would make sure that both parents agree on a trip to a questionable foreign country. When granting physical placement, the court would be responsible for advising the parties of the prohibition and

including the prohibition in the order of physical placement.

We believe it is important to note here that SB 89 is neither an all-encompassing piece of legislation nor an attempt to broadly crack down on parental rights. Instead, it is an effort to prevent children from being taken to foreign countries where there is a probable likelihood that they could be illegally detained. Many times children are often kept in foreign countries not by a parent, but by a government that refuses to let them leave. **According to statistics from the U.S. Department of State's Office of Children Issues, at least one dual-national American child is abducted to or unlawfully detained in the Islamic World every day.** And those are just statistics from Islamic countries.

The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction was adopted in 1980 in an attempt to protect children internationally from the harmful effects of wrongful removal or illegal detainment. Countries that have either ratified or acceded to the Hague Convention have established procedures that would ensure the prompt and safe return of abducted children. Sixty-five countries have signed onto the Convention. Just some of the countries that have not signed the Convention include Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Somalia and Libya. Incidentally, these countries are also among the list

of nations that the U.S. Department of State has advised Americans to avoid traveling to.

We believe that this legislation is a good first step toward enacting statutes that would protect our state's children from potential abduction or wrongful detainment. In Ms. Long's current situation, this bill would prevent her ex-husband from taking their children to Iran, where it is possible that they may permanently remain. We appreciate your consideration of SB 89, and ask that you act swiftly so that the bill may be taken up by both the Assembly and the Senate during the May floor period. Thank you once again, Chairman George and Committee members, for hearing our testimony on this bill.



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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign Finance Reform
From: Family Law Section
Date: April 24, 2001
Re: Support Senate Bill 89

The Family Law Section supports Senate Bill 89 which requires divorced parents who share custody to receive the written approval of the other parent before traveling with the child to a country that does not follow the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

The proposal should help to prevent removal of a child to a country from which he or she may not be returned, regardless of applicable judicial orders. When considering the difficulty in getting children back once they have left the U.S., this type of prevention makes sense.

The Family Law Section encourages your support of Senate Bill 89.