

June 17, 2009

The Honorable Mary A. McLaughlin
United States District Court
for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
U.S. Courthouse
601 Market Street, Room #13614
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1723

Dear Judge McLaughlin:

My name is Diana Murtazova. I am 18 years old, and I live in Beslan, Russia.

On September 1st, 2004, I was taken hostage by terrorists in Beslan School #1, along with my two sisters, my mom, and over 1200 other people. On September 3rd, as a result of an explosion, I was heavily wounded and became paralyzed. After the siege ended, I was sent to a hospital in Moscow, and then when my condition worsened, to a hospital in Germany...

Andrew Mogilyansky and the International Foundation for Terror Act Victims that he organized arranged for me and my parents to come to the United States for vascular surgery and rehabilitation that I very much needed. My mom, my dad and I flew to the US in September 2006. Andrew met us in New York airport and drove us to Philadelphia. We stayed with his family at their house, and became very good friends with them. Andrew's wife was pregnant with twins at that time, but despite that they did everything possible so that we had everything that we needed and felt comfortable.

Later on, the Foundation rented an apartment for us closer to the hospital (Philadelphia Shriners Hospital for Children, where I was undergoing treatment), where we stayed for 5 following months. During our entire stay, Andrew and other Foundation's volunteers helped us every day – with transportation, translation, helping us do grocery shopping and other daily things. Upon the completion of my surgery and rehabilitation, we went back to Russia in February 2007.

My parents and I will be always thankful to Andrew Mogilyansky for everything that he did for us. He is one of the kindest and open-hearted people I know. He devoted himself fully to helping me and other victims of Beslan terror attack. Even though we were complete strangers before we met, we now consider him our family.

Dear Judge, please be kind to Andrew, as he has done so much good to me and others!

Respectfully,



Diana Murtazova
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