

Date 07/05/09

To the Honorable Judge Mary A. McLaughlin
US District Court
For the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
US Courthouse
601 Market Street, Room #13614
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1723

Dear Judge McLaughlin,

My name is Elena Mogilyansky. I am a graduate student in biomedical sciences at Thomas Jefferson University (Philadelphia). I am Andrew Mogilyansky's stepmother. I have known Andrew for about 11 years since I got married to his father. During this time I have witnessed a bright, energetic, and intelligent young man with high ambitions to get married, become successful businessman, get involved in politics, organize the foundation for terrorism victims, and recently become a caring father of three young children.

I have witnessed how much respect extended family members, friends, and co-workers have for Andrew. I have seen much older people ask him for advice about everything from stock market to popular vacation spots. I personally always know that I can get his advice, support or just words of encouragement in any situation.

I remember that when he found out that his father and I got engaged while we were on vacation in Europe, he sent us the most beautiful flower arrangement. He wrote on the card that it was one of the happiest days in his life. He was really trying to make me feel welcomed to the family. Later he continued to do everything to make me feel comfortable when our families lived together for 3 years under one roof. I saw how much he adored his little sister Lucy (my and his father's daughter), played with her and spoiled her with new toys whenever he could.

His successful business is not pure luck, but a result of determination, hard work and intelligence. I saw him work long hours, including weekends. However, despite his busy work schedule he always found time to help other people. He got involved in politics and created the foundation to help terrorism victims. I saw him spend long hours in New York participating in political debates, testifying to defend victims of terror or personally having appointments with doctors who agreed to perform free surgeries for kids from Beslan, who become severely disabled after terrorist attacks. Some kids who he sponsored through his foundation came to US with their parents for surgeries and rehabilitation and stayed for extended period of time at Andrew's house. And again, despite Andrew's busy schedule, he and his wife personally drove them to endless doctors' appointments, translated for them and made all other necessary arrangements for their stay here. I would also like to point out that all money raised by the foundation went directly to the victims, and all administrative expenses were paid for from the pocket of the board members.

Again, despite his business, involvement in politics, foundation, he always found time to spend with his wife and extended family. I know him as the man who values family the most. We always try to see each other on weekends, celebrate holidays together (as a rule, we celebrate Easter and Christmas at Andrew's house and Thanksgiving at our house), and go on vacations together. As an example, in the beginning of 2006 all of us including Andrew's wife, his parents-in-law, his father and I spent two weeks on a cruise and had a wonderful time. Also, he loves his father very much and their relationship becomes stronger and stronger every day.

Three years ago Andrew and Oksana (his wife), after having been married for 4 years and known each other for more than 10 years, decided to start a family and became proud parents of twins Anna and Daniel (now 2.5-year old) and later Julia, who is now 1 year old. Becoming a father has drastically changed Andrew's life. He stopped working on weekends and tried to be home as early as he could to spend time with children before their bed time. All three children love him very much and playing with daddy when he comes home from work is always the highlight of their day.

In conclusion, I hope that my personal observation will help you in your decision. I ask you to please be as lenient with Andrew as possible. If you have any questions or need clarification, I will gladly testify in court as a character witness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elena Mogilyansky". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

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