

STATE OF INDIANA

IN THE MATTER OF:

Race: African American; Sex: Female; [REDACTED]; Age: 12 years

Race: African American; Sex: Male; Age: 9 years

Race: African American; Sex: Male; [REDACTED]; Age: 8 years

Latoya Ammons (Mother of

(Alleged Father [REDACTED])

(Father of [REDACTED])

Current Placement: [REDACTED] are placed at the Carmelite Home.
[REDACTED] was placed at Christian Haven.

Children Alleged to be in Need of Services

INTAKE OFFICER'S REPORT OF PRELIMINARY INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION

NEXT HEARING DATE: 24th day of April, 2012

HAVE THE CHILDREN BEEN REMOVED FROM THE HOME? Yes; Removal date/time:
April 20, 2012 at 4:30:00 PM

Prior to the removal, the children lived with: Latoya Ammons (Mother of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]). The children were taken into custody WITHOUT a court order. Supporting facts relative to IC 31-34-2-3 are included in Taking Custody of a Child Without a Verbal or Written Court Order; Description of Circumstances; State Form 49584/CW0018, attached. Specifically,

- children are in need of services pursuant to IC 31-34-1, see attachment, Section A.
- children's physical or mental condition will be seriously impaired or seriously endangered if the children are not immediately taken into custody, see attachment, Section B (I).
- Safety considerations for the children preclude the immediate use of family services to prevent removal of the children, see attachment, Section B (II & III).
- There is not a reasonable opportunity to obtain an order of the court, see attachment, Section C.

PROBABLE CAUSE:

Date/time: April 19, 2011 at 7:17:00 PM

Location: Northlake Methodist Hospital
600 Grant St. Gary, IN 46407

Facts and Evidence of Probable Cause:

- A. Nature of Report: On 4/19/19 at 8:20pm, the Indiana Department of Child Services received a report stating the following information from a Report Source (RS):

RS states the children were at their primary care physician's office and he sent them to the ER. RS states the mother has reported that there are demons in the home and they are attacking the children. RS states the mother reported that the children fight one another and are abusive to one another and then they pass out.

RS states [REDACTED] reported that there are ghosts in the home, thousands of them and he can see them. RS states [REDACTED] reported that they don't talk to him but after the mother tells [REDACTED] that he can tell the medical professionals the truth he later says yes. RS states [REDACTED] reported that one demon told him that he was going to hell and that he wasn't going to God.

RS states they believe that a month ago everything was relatively normal. RS states the family recently moved but they are unaware of where they moved from. RS states within the last month it started with one child acting out and fighting then it was with all the children being very violent with each other in public but especially with the mother present.

RS states they believe the mother may have mental health concerns. RS states they believe the children are performing for the mother and that she's encouraging the behavior.

RS states the children are in the hospital at this time and haven't been in the hospital for longer than 30 minutes.

- B. Facts and Evidence: On 4/19/12 at 8:45pm, FCM Washington conducted an assessment at Northlake Hospital regarding the Ammons family.

FCM Washington interviewed Ms. Latoya Ammons, [REDACTED] (9yrs), [REDACTED] (12yrs), [REDACTED] (7 yrs), and various medical staff.

Medical staff stated Ms. Ammons reported various stories regarding demons and spirits. Medical staff reported Ms. Ammons reported that her home has various demons and evil spirits due to someone dying in the home.

Medical staff reported they observed the children and heard the 7yr old making growling noises and his eyes rolled into the back of his head.

Medical staff reported that while the children were at their primary doctor's office the medical staff reported they observed [REDACTED] be lifted and thrown into the wall with nobody touching him. Gary police department went to the home and the home has multiple religious shrines, bibles throughout the home, plenty of food, the home was clean.

Medical staff reported [REDACTED] reported ghost attacks him and his brother. Mother has stated she has taken the children to various temples and churches to remove the demons.

Medical staff stated [REDACTED] had a physical outburst hitting and kicking the brother and grandmother. Mother placed the child in a gentle therapeutic hold and the child became limp and was placed on the bed, but was difficult to arouse. Child stated he did not recall what

happened. Social Worker came into the room to evaluate Ms. Ammons and [REDACTED] eyes rolled to the back of his head and his teeth were exposed and he began to growl.

[REDACTED] (9yrs) stated that ghost are attacking him and his brother. Child became aggressive and walked up the wall as if he was walking on the floor and did a flip over the grandmother. The episode was witnessed by the psych counselor and DCS worker FCM Washington.

[REDACTED] (12yrs) reported that at times she has weird thoughts and unnatural events take place in the home during the evening time. She also reported being thrown across the room and grabbed by dark shadows a few nights ago and has a greenish bruise to the underside of wrist.

Ms. Ammons requested help for her children. Ms. Ammons stated that she has lived in her home at [REDACTED] Carolina St. Gary November 2011 until now. December 2011 and January 2012 Ms. Ammons stated she noticed weird changes in her children and herself.

Ms. Ammons stated they had to go to bed by 8pm because if they were awake at 11pm the spirits would come out and keep them up all night throwing things, moving things in the home, the home turns cold and the spirits touch the children and herself while in the home.

Northlake hospital had the family examined and found the children and mom to be healthy and free of any marks or bruises.

A psychological evaluation was completed with Ms. Ammons, and it was found that she was of sound mind. There were no concerns about her mental stability at this time by the hospital psychiatrist.

C. Parent/Guardian/Custodian Response: On 4/19/12 at Northlake Hospital ER, FCM Washington interviewed Ms. Latoya Ammons regarding the allegations in the 310 report.

Ms. Ammons stated all the information reported to DCS was true and although people think she might be sounding crazy, they all happen to her family.

Ms. Ammons reported trying to find various pastors, priests, bishops, and other spiritual officials to help her get the demons out of her children and her home.

Ms. Ammons was discussing the event that led her family to the hospital this evening and her 7yr old son, [REDACTED], started making noises such as growling when she would speak about the different church's she visited and call looking for help with the demonic spirits in her children and her home. [REDACTED] was on the other side of the curtain in another room and she could hear his sounds. The more Ms. Ammons discussed the churches and the advise she was given on how to kill the spirits her son, [REDACTED] got louder and louder growling until a loud shuffle started in the room next door and the [REDACTED] shouted for her mother to come help.

FCM and Ms. Ammons went to the other room to find [REDACTED] had [REDACTED] (9yrs) in a head lock choking him. [REDACTED]'s eyes were rolling in his head and he was growling and his teeth were showing while he held tight to his brother's throat. It took several staff to pry the hands open of [REDACTED] to release [REDACTED]

Afterwards, [REDACTED] began to shake and he laid back down in the bed and his facial expression changed.

Later that evening FCM Washington and psychologist's and the family were in the room discussing placement for [REDACTED] (7yrs). [REDACTED] began to growl again and stare into [REDACTED] eyes and [REDACTED]'s facial expression changed. [REDACTED] began to have a weird smile on his face and he charged at the grandmother's stomach and head butted her several times until she grabbed his hands and started praying. [REDACTED] was speaking in a different deep voice saying "Its time to die," "I will kill you" and staring around the room.

[REDACTED] had the weird grin on his face and began to walk backwards while the grandmother was holding his hand and he walked up the wall backwards while holding the grandmother's hand and he never let go. He flipped over and landed on his feet in front of the grandmother and sat down in the chair. A few minutes later he looked up as if he was back to himself.

FCM Washington and psychologists left the room immediately and went to the attending doctor, Dr. Richardson, and told him what was just witnessed in the Ammons family room.

Dr. Richardson did not believe it so he asked if the child can perform this act again, the psychologist stated I doubt it seriously, this kid was not himself when he did that. Dr. Richardson, FCM Washington, and the psychologist went back to the room to ask [REDACTED] if he can walk up the wall again? [REDACTED] stated "I did not walk up a wall. I cannot walk up a wall". When he tried to walk up the wall again he could not get his balance nor place his feet properly to walk up the wall.

The children were removed from the mother's care to ensure their safety.

[REDACTED] was placed at Christian Haven after several attempts by hospital staff to have [REDACTED] placed in a residential setting to obtain a psychiatric evaluation. Each facility denied his admission.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were placed at the Carmelite Home.

Ms. Ammons stated she was having the home blessed on Sunday by a Priest named Father Michael, from a Catholic Church in Merriville, IN.

Ms. Ammons stated she could not send the children to school sometimes because the spirits would make them sick, or they would be up all night without sleep and they could not attend school.

Ms. Ammons admitted the children missed a lot of school.

D. children's Statement: See facts and evidence.

E. Other Pertinent Information: On 4/19/12 Gary Police Department assessed the home at [REDACTED] Carolina Street Gary, IN.

Medical staff reported that while the children were at their primary doctor's office the medical staff reported they observed [REDACTED] be lifted and thrown into the wall with nobody touching him. Gary police department went to the home and the home has multiple religious shrines, bibles throughout the home, plenty of food, the home was clean.

Upon further investigation it was found that the family has previous DCS history regarding educational neglect.

SAID CHILD IS IN NEED OF SERVICES PURSUANT TO IC 31-34-1 IN THAT:

- The children's physical or mental condition is seriously impaired or seriously endangered as a result of the inability, refusal, or neglect of the children's parent, guardian or custodian to supply the children with necessary food, clothing, shelter, medical care, education or supervision; (IC 31-34-1-1)
- The children substantially endangers the children's own health or the health of another; (IC 31-34-1-6)
- The children needs care, treatment, or rehabilitation that the children are not receiving and is unlikely to be provided or accepted without the coercive intervention of the Court.

FAMILY INFORMATION

Latoya Ammons (Mother of [REDACTED])

Race: African American; Sex: Female; [REDACTED]; Age: 31 years

Ethnicity: Unknown; Citizenship: Unknown; Language: Unknown

Marital Status: Unknown; Religion: Unknown

Address:

Alias/Maiden Name:

Ammons

Employment:

None

Marital Status: Single

Known CPS History:

Neg (Educational 2009) case # 855634145

[REDACTED] (Alleged Father [REDACTED])

Race: African American; Sex: Male; [REDACTED]; Age: 36 years

Ethnicity: Unknown; Citizenship: Unknown; Language: Unknown

Marital Status: Unknown; Religion: Unknown

Address:

Unknown

Alias Name:

Unknown

Paternity Established: No

Employment:

Unknown

Marital Status: Unavailable

Describe attempts to locate absent parent:

Unable to locate

Known CPS History:
Unknown

(Father of [REDACTED])
Race: African American; Sex: Male; [REDACTED]
Ethnicity: Unknown; Citizenship: Unknown; Language: Unknown
Marital Status: Unknown; Religion: Unknown
Address: [REDACTED]

Employment:
Unknown
Marital Status: Unavailable
Known CPS History:
Unknown

CHILDREN'S HISTORY, HOME AND HEALTH

Legal custody of the child is with: Latoya Ammons (Mother)
Pursuant to: The mother has legal custody pursuant to the birth of the child.

Others residing in the home: Latoya Ammons (Mother), [REDACTED] (Sister) and [REDACTED] (Brother)

SIBLINGS: (Sister) - Age 12;
(Brother) - Age 9;

Is child placed in close proximity to HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD?: yes

Is child able to maintain ESSENTIAL CONNECTIONS?: yes

School of the child's LEGAL SETTLEMENT (Home School):
Does the child have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)? no
Are there special accommodations? no
Name of School: [REDACTED]
Grade in School: 1st Grade

CHILD'S PHYSICAL HEALTH (special need, accommodations and physical challenges):
None

CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH (diagnosis, prescribed medication):
Behavioral problems

PRIOR DCS HISTORY FOR THE CHILD:

Educational Neglect 3/15/09 Sub

PRIOR COURT INVOLVEMENT (including JD/JS/CHINS/Informal Adjustments):
45D060907JD000560,45D060907JD000561,45D060907JD000562

Legal custody of the child is with: Latoya Ammons (Mother)
Pursuant to: The mother has legal custody pursuant to the birth of the child.

Others residing in the home: (Brother), Latoya Ammons (Mother) and
(Brother)

SIBLINGS:

(Brother) - Age 8;
(Brother) - Age 9;

Is child placed in close proximity to HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD?: yes

Is child able to maintain ESSENTIAL CONNECTIONS?: yes

School of the child's LEGAL SETTLEMENT (Home School):
Does the child have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)? no
Are there special accommodations? no
Name of School:
Grade in School: 7th Grade

CHILD'S PHYSICAL HEALTH (special need, accommodations and physical challenges):
None

CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH (diagnosis, prescribed medication):
None

PRIOR DCS HISTORY FOR THE CHILD:
Educational Neglect 3/15/09

PRIOR COURT INVOLVEMENT (including JD/JS/CHINS/Informal Adjustments):
Sub45D060907JD000560,45D060907JD000561,45D060907JD000562

Legal custody of the child is with: Latoya Ammons (Mother)
Pursuant to: The mother has legal custody pursuant to the birth of the child.

Others residing in the home: (Brother), Latoya Ammons (Mother) and
(Sister)

SIBLINGS:

(Brother) - Age 8;

[REDACTED] (Sister) - Age 12; [REDACTED]

Is child placed in close proximity to HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD?: yes

Is child able to maintain ESSENTIAL CONNECTIONS?: yes

School of the child's LEGAL SETTLEMENT (Home School):

Does the child have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)? yes

Are there special accommodations? no

Name of School: [REDACTED]

Grade in School: 3rd Grade

CHILD'S PHYSICAL HEALTH (special need, accommodations and physical challenges):

None

CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH (diagnosis, prescribed medication):

Behavioral Issues

PRIOR DCS HISTORY FOR THE CHILD:

Educational Neglect 3/15/09

PRIOR COURT INVOLVEMENT (including JD/JS/CHINS/Informal Adjustments):

Sub45D060907JD000560,45D060907JD000561,45D060907JD000562

REASONABLE EFFORTS/BEST INTERESTS

The safety of the children precludes the immediate use of family services to prevent removal of the children because:

Due to the nature of the allegations and the children's behavior while in the hospital precluded the immediate use of service could not prevent removal of the children.

It is in the best interests of the children to be removed from the home environment and remaining in the home would be contrary to the health and welfare of the children because: The children has not attended school on a regular basis. The mother cannot find help to assist the children.

RECOMMENDATION AND REASONING:

Filing of Petition alleging that the children are children in need of services. Out-of-home placement should be considered: Carmelite Home and Christian Haven until mother can seek suitable housing for her family.. Indiana Department of Child Services recommends mother complete a parenting evaluation.

Indiana Department of Child Services recommends mother complete individual and family counseling.

Indiana Department of Child Services recommends mother seek suitable housing for the family.

Indiana Department of Child Services recommends the children and children complete a clinical assestment.

Indiana Department of Child Services recommends mother have the home inspected for carbon monoxide poisoning.

Indiana Department of Child Services recommends mother have supervised visitation with the children.

Indiana Department of Children Services recommends both father establish paternity for the children.

Reasons for Recommendation:

The mother is unable to ensure the children's safety at this time.

I affirm, under the penalties for perjury, that the foregoing representations are true.

Signature of Family Case Manager



Valerie Washington
Family Case Manager
Indiana Department of Child Services
Local Office in Lake County

Dated: April 23, 2012

Signature of DCS Supervisor

Supervisor
Indiana Department of Child Services
Local Office in Lake County

ATTACHMENTS:

Taking Custody of a Child Without a Verbal or Written Court Order Form