

IN THE INTEREST OF : **IN THE DISTRICT COURT**
Deshawn Bleux : **OF GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS**
A CHILD : **306Th JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

CASA REPORT TO COURT

This CASA Report to Court has been prepared for the Status Hearing to be held on August 7, 2018. CASA of Galveston County was assigned to this case on May 29, 2018. The CASA Advocate was assigned to this case on June 1, 2018.

I. Case History

According to information obtained by this CASA, these are the events that led to the removal of Deshawn Bleux. On May 19, 2018 the Department received allegations of physical abuse of Deshawn Bleux, by his mother, Antoinette Bleux, and father, Miles Bleux. Deshawn was brought to County Hospital by Mr. Bleux, saying he could not wake Deshawn for his regular 10 p.m. feeding. Deshawn’s medical exam was completed and indicated that he had been injured by means other than accidental. He was diagnosed with a subdural hematoma and retinal hemorrhaging and remained in the hospital until May 23, 2018. Both parents had access to the child during the time when the injuries occurred. Deshawn was removed upon discharge from County Hospital on May 23, 2018 and placed in foster care.

II. Child

Deshawn Bleux:

Deshawn Bleux was born on March 12, 2018 and is currently 4 months old. As observed by this CASA, Deshawn is a wide-eyed and curious infant boy with a tuft of dark, curly hair on the cap of his head. This CASA has observed that Deshawn dislikes having socks on his feet, getting particularly fussy anytime he is dressed.

Placement:

Deshawn is placed in a foster home with Ms. P. and Mr. C. According to information obtained by this CASA, Deshawn has been in their home since his discharge from County Hospital on May 23, 2018.

This CASA visited Deshawn at his placement on June 3, 2018. This CASA noticed that Deshawn was fussy and difficult to soothe at times, and other times was easily soothed and would cry for long periods of time, even while being comforted by his foster parents. This CASA observed Deshawn’s cradle in the foster parents’ room and Deshawn’s room, which is nicely decorated with books, stuffed animals, a crib, and dresser.

This CASA visited Deshawn at his placement on July 19, 2018. This CASA noted that Deshawn was

more consolable than at the previous visit and was receptive to soothing. He was beginning to laugh and explore his world, holding and sucking on toys and responding to speech with a noise of his own. This CASA held Deshawn and fed him a bottle, burped him, and he fell asleep in this CASA's arms. When he awoke, he reached for his foster mother, Ms. P., and was smiling at her as she spoke to him. Ms. P reports that Deshawn is most difficult on the days after parent-child visitation, when Deshawn appears inconsolable through the evening. This CASA observed Deshawn to be more settled into his foster parents' home.

Medical

According to medical records obtained by this CASA, Deshawn was diagnosed with a subdural hematoma and retinal hemorrhaging on May 21, 2018 by Dr. Saul Maronian, attending physician at County Hospital. According to records obtained by this CASA, Deshawn was released from the hospital on May 23, 2018.

Deshawn currently sees Early Years Peds for his regular appointments. According to medical records received by this CASA, Deshawn visited Early Years Peds for a regularly scheduled appointment on June 5, 2018 and is growing appropriately and appears to be a healthy infant boy. Deshawn is scheduled to return to Early Years Peds on October 25, 2018.

Dental

This CASA has confirmed that Deshawn is scheduled to visit Galveston County Dentists on August 30, 2018.

III. Parents

Antoinette Bleux, Mother:

Mrs. Bleux was served at the Family Team Meeting on June 6, 2018. She agreed to the service plan presented which includes attending parenting education, anger management, medical education on shaken baby syndrome, complete a mental health assessment and follow all recommendations, and attend visitation. At this time, Mrs. Bleux has not executed a release of information for CASA.

Miles Bleux, Father:

Mr. Bleux was served at his home. He attended the Family Team Meeting on June 6, 2018 and agreed to the service plan presented which includes attending parenting education, anger management, medical education on shaken baby syndrome, complete a mental health assessment and follow all recommendations, and attend visitation. At this time, Mr. Bleux has not executed a release of information for CASA.

IV. Parent-Child Visits

Visitation is supervised twice weekly at the CPS office for 2 hours.

This CASA observed a parent-child visit on June 21, 2018. Mrs. Bleux arrived with Sabine Lee, Deshawn's maternal aunt. Ms. Lee was invited into the visit by both Mrs. Bleux and Mr. Bleux. This CASA observed both parents holding and attempting to soothe Deshawn, who alternated between calm and crying during the two-hour visit. Both parents appeared to be happy to see Deshawn, but

this CASA was concerned that they appeared tense in their interactions. Ms. Lee was respectful to both parents and was calm and gentle in her attempts to soothe Deshawn.

Mr. and Mrs. Bleux were present and engaged with the child during the visit. Mrs. Bleux brought a toy for Deshawn, but he was not interested as it seemed to be above his maturity level. Deshawn cried much of the visit, and Mr. and Mrs. Bleux were unable to soothe him. At the end of the visit, both parents kissed Deshawn and left quickly.

V. Sabine Lee, Maternal Aunt

Ms. Lee participated in the Family Team Meeting held on June 6, 2018 and at this time expressed interest to this CASA about being a placement for Deshawn.

VI. Concerns

This CASA is concerned that Deshawn is inconsolable during and after parent-child visits.

This CASA is concerned that a home study has not been completed on Ms. Lee, maternal aunt of Deshawn.

VII. Recommendations

This CASA respectfully recommends:

1. Deshawn remain in his current placement.
2. A home study be completed on Sabine Lee.
3. Ms. P. and Mr. C. ensure Deshawn attends all necessary appointment and follow-up on any recommendations.
4. Ms. Bleux engage and complete all service plan requirements.
5. Mr. Bleux engage and complete all service plan requirements.

Respectfully,

Jane Doe

Jane Doe, CASA/GAL

7/17/18

Date

John Jones

John Jones, CASA Supervisor

7/17/18

Date

Contacts:

- Deshawn Bleux, child

- Antoinette Bleux, mother
- Miles Bleux, father
- Sabine Lee, maternal aunt
- Ms. P and Mr. C, foster parents
- Jane Morgan, CPS caseworker
- Elaine Moore, AAL
- Meghan Fowler, ADA
- Samuel Bluestein, attorney for Mrs. Bleux
- Jacob Bell, attorney for Mr. Bleux
- Dr. Saul Maronian, emergency room physician at County Hospital