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Ms. Faline Smith

Via U.S. Mail

659 Robbins Street

Palm Bay, Florida 32905

Dear Ms. Smith,

Recently, I received a letter regarding the paternity matter between you and your child's father, The Great Prince. In this letter you asked if you could prevent unsupervised contact with Bambi, if you are entitled to child support while the case is pending, and if you are entitled to attorney fees while the case is pending. In the letter you stated that Bambi's father is often gone for long periods of time and it is unknown when he will visit. It was also stated that he contributes very little to Bambi's upbringing and there are rumors he may have fathered other children as well. Describing yourself as young and inexperienced, as well as relying on friends to help care for Bambi, the following are my opinions regarding each of your issues:

FLA. STAT. § 61.13(4)(c)(2) states that it is public policy that each child shall have frequent and continuing contact with both parents. Nonetheless, if the court finds contact to be detrimental to the child this policy can be altered. Currently unsupervised contact cannot be prevented but if the Great Prince's actions are harmful to Bambi, you could eventually be awarded sole parental custody.

On this issue of child support, FLA. STAT. § 61.13(4)(c)(1) states that the court may issue child support at any time. A motion for Temporary Child Support could be filed against Bambi's father. Through this motion a judge could order him to pay a specific amount of money for child support while the case is being decided. This order would ensure help with the cost of her necessities.

Lastly, your final question related to The Great Prince paying temporary attorney fees while the case is pending. FLA. STAT. § 61.16(1) allows the court to order a party to pay a reasonable amount for attorneys' fees after taking into consideration both parties' financial situations. An award cannot be done immediately, but once financial disclosure is exerted by both parties', a judge can enter an award per a final judgment.

As Bambi's mother it your responsibly to ensure her safety, and make sure she is cared for in the best way possible regardless of being young and inexperienced. A continuous relationship with both parents is essential to a child's upbringing. Please note that the outcomes discussed above are my opinion and I can guarantee no sure result. If you have any questions and would like to schedule a telephone conference or in-office meeting, please call (321) 372 8744. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Danyel Choban*

Danyel Choban, Esq.  
Counsel for Plaintiff

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Encl.  
Cc: File