

STATE OF MINNESOTA

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

HENNEPIN COUNTY

JUVENILE COURT DIVISION

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of:
Tasha Tennin, Parent

JUVENILE PROTECTION PETITION
TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS
503

FAM ID No.: 0226121

JC Case No.: 27-JV-18-2966

SSIS No.: 533716565

Children: Child 2: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4
Child 3: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4
Child 5: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4
Child 6: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4

Petitioner, Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, also known as the "Department," alleges that:

1.0 The children who are subject to this petition are as follows:

1.1 Child 2: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4

1.2 Child 3: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4

1.3 Child 5: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4

1.4 Child 6: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4

2.0 The parents, guardians or legal custodians are as follows:

2.1 Mother:

Tasha Tennin, DOB: 09/25/1982, Race: African American

Current Residence: 8205 Queen Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

2.1.1 The mother was not married when the children were conceived or when the children were born and is the sole custodian under Minn. Stat. §257.541, Subd. 1.

2.1.2 Tasha Tennin has the following other child not subject of this petition:

Child 1: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4. D.G. has reached the age of majority.



2.2 Adjudicated Father of Child 2, Child 3, Child 4 (Deceased), Child 5 and Child 6:

Tedrick Davis Sr., DOB: 04/11/1980, Race: African American

LKA: 707 Queen Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55411

2.2.1 Tedrick Davis is considered adjudicated as the father of Child 2 pursuant to Hennepin County Court File No. 27-PA-FA-06-1045.

Tedrick Davis is considered adjudicated as the father of Child 3 pursuant to Hennepin County Court File No. 27-PA-FA-10-791.

Tedrick Davis is considered adjudicated as the father of Child 4 (deceased) pursuant to Hennepin County Court File No. 27-PA-FA-10-792.

Tedrick Davis is considered adjudicated as the father of Child 5 as he and Ms. Tennin were over the age of eighteen when they signed a Recognition of Parentage Form which was filed with the Minnesota Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics.

Tedrick Davis is considered adjudicated as the father of Child 6 as he and Ms. Tennin were over the age of eighteen when they signed a Recognition of Parentage Form which was filed with the Minnesota Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics.

3.0 The Parties to this proceeding include the following:

Tasha Tennin, Mother

Tedrick Davis Sr., Adjudicated Father of Child 2, Child 3, Child 4 (Deceased), Child 5 and Child 6

Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, Petitioner
Address: 525 Portland Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55415-1569

Guardian Ad Litem Office
Address: Juvenile Justice Center C-35 - 590 Park Ave., L878
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1582

4.0 The Participants to this proceeding are as follows:

Child 2: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4, Child

Child 3: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4, Child

Child 5: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4, Child

Child 6: Refer to Conf. Info. Document 11.4, Child

- 5.0 Based on information now known, the Indian Child Welfare Act is not applicable.**
- 6.0 Petitioner alleges that the following facts constitute grounds for termination of parental rights:**

Tasha Tennin:

Tasha Tennin is the mother of the five children who are subjects of this petition. Ms. Tennin has an extensive child protection history in Minnesota with reports of physical abuse, one which resulted in a criminal conviction of malicious child punishment (see file no. 27-CR-06-052590), endangerment, neglect (domestic violence, failure to provide medical care, failure to protect), threatened injury and multiple reports of sexual abuse (see prior child protection history, Section 8.)

On February 1, 2018, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report of neglect, failure to protect Child 4 from conditions or actions that present serious endangerment by Ms. Tennin, and a report of threatened injury of Child 2, Child 3, Child 5 and Child 6 by Ms. Tennin. On February 1, 2018, the Brooklyn Park Police Department responded to a call of a child who was unconscious. It was reported that Ms. Tennin called 911 stating that Child 4 was unconscious but responsive. When officers arrived on the scene, they found Child 4 laying in the living room; Child 4's eyes were wide open and Child 4 was not breathing. Per the report, Child 4 was cold to the touch, as if Child 4 was found outside and moved inside. Child 4 had pajamas on and appeared to have urinated on the clothing. Ms. Tennin told the police officers that she went downstairs to wake up Child 4 for school but Child 4 would not respond. Ms. Tennin picked up Child 4 and brought Child 4 upstairs and called 911. According to the report, Child 4 had no signs of visible trauma and had no known medical conditions.

Once the Brooklyn Park Police Department arrived to the home of Ms. Tennin, Child 4 was declared deceased at the scene. It was reported that an autopsy would be completed by the Hennepin County Medical Examiner. The children were placed on a police hold.

On February 1, 2018, Child 5 was interviewed by the Child Protection Investigator(CPI) at the Brooklyn Park Police Department. Child 5 reported that Child 4 went outside when school was over and was playing with friends. When Child 4 came inside, Child 4 was having a hard time breathing. Child 5 reported that Ms. Tennin knew Child 4 was having a hard time breathing and the following morning, when Ms. Tennin was trying to wake Child 4 up for school, Child 4 was not breathing at all.

Child 3 was also interviewed by the CPI and reported that Child 4 committed suicide last night. Child 3 stated that in the morning, Ms. Tennin was worried, then the police showed up. Child 3 reported that the previous night, Child 4 went to bed and Child 2, Child 3, Child 5 and Child 6 were watching a movie. Child 3 stated that Child 4 did not say

anything about being sad or upset and that Child 4 had a cold and was stuffed up "like everyone else."

Child 2 was interviewed by the CPI and reported that Child 2 was unaware if anyone was awake or asleep the night before Child 4 passed away. When Child 2 got home, everyone was laying down. In the morning, Child 2 stated that the only people who were up were Child 2, the baby, and Ms. Tennin. Child 2 reported that things were quiet and the bus picked up Child 2. The CPI asked Child 2 to clarify questions regarding what happened the morning before Child 2 got on the bus, Child 2 reported that Ms. Tennin called Child 2 to get blankets and a heater. Child 2 could not find the heater and was trying to leave for school so Child 2 gave Ms. Tennin the heater and walked away. Child 2 reported that Child 2 saw Ms. Tennin turn on the oven because she stated that Child 4 was cold.

On February 2, 2018, the CPI interviewed Ms. Tennin. Ms. Tennin reported that for the past two weeks, the flu was going through her family; each person had diarrhea, vomiting, and no appetite. The day prior to Child 4's death, Ms. Tennin reported that Child 4 was very quiet and at dinner, and Child 3 and Child 4 did not eat. Ms. Tennin reported that the school told her that lately, Child 4 was sleeping more often. Ms. Tennin stated that Child 4 was not himself that day, that Child 4 looked "messed up," and that Child 4 slept in a different bedroom for the first time. Around 5:30 pm that evening, Ms. Tennin checked on Child 4 and asked if Child 4 wanted something to eat. Child 4 replied "no," stated that his/her head hurt and laid back down. Ms. Tennin left Child 4 peanut butter crackers and water. Around 7:30 pm, Ms. Tennin went to Child 4's room and had Child 4 use the restroom. Around 9 pm, Ms. Tennin went downstairs to check on Child 4. Ms. Tennin checked on all the other children and went to bed.

On February 1, 2018, Ms. Tennin woke up Child 2 around 7:15 am due to the bus leaving at 7:40 am. At 7:30 am, Ms. Tennin gave Child 2 medication and woke up the other children. Ms. Tennin went downstairs and yelled for Child 4 to wake up. Child 4 grunted, Ms. Tennin made a lot of noise trying to get Child 4 up. Ms. Tennin went upstairs to help Child 2 take out the trash and then told Child 3 to get dressed. Ms. Tennin proceeded to go back up the stairs when she noticed that Child 4 was not behind her so she went back to the room to see what was wrong. Ms. Tennin yelled for Child 2 to get a phone. Child 2 could not find one and stated that he/she would be late for the bus. Ms. Tennin stated to Child 2 that something was wrong with Child 4 and that she needed to call 911. Ms. Tennin called 911 on the first phone she could find.

During the interview, Ms. Tennin had a blank look on her face, her eyes were wide and she was looking at the wall over the table and started making sounds with her throat. Ms. Tennin's cousin told the CPI to move away and called for the uncle to come and help saying "Tasha is about to blow. Get in here, she has been doing this all night." Ms. Tennin flipped the table over and started crying/yelling. Ms. Tennin stood up with fisted hands and then fell onto her knees. The family support attempted to support her but could not. There were four people who moved around Ms. Tennin in a "prayer circle" and Ms. Tennin stated "Devil stole my baby. I didn't give him permission. Stealing is wrong.

Stealing is wrong. He shouldn't have taken my baby." Ms. Tennin then looked at the CPI and mentioned something relating to a previous child protection case then stated "Teddy ain't no father." Ms. Tennin made a quick motion toward the CPI and her family stood in between her and the CPI. The family was able to contain Ms. Tennin and the CPI left.

On February 1, 2018, Hennepin County Medical Examiner took photo-documentation of Child 4's body. The medical examiner discovered several loop shaped scars on Child 4's back that are usually indicative of being struck with a belt or cord and a couple scars on Child 4's genitals.

The school Child 4 attended reported that Child 4 had been tired lately at school because of a medication Child 4 was taking. The school also reported that there had been a number of students who had the flu. The school therapist reported that the day prior to Child 4's death, Child 4 did not want to do the reading activity and had walked away for a few minutes, but after Child 4 called and spoke to Ms. Tennin, Child 4's behavior changed. According to the school, Child 4 had been more active and alert lately and if Child 4 was overly tired, the school would let Child 4 take a short nap.

On February 5, 2018, the school's principal stated that Child 4 appeared visibly sick the previous week and believed that there was a sickness going on in the family's home as Child 4's sibling appeared sick too.

On February 5 and February 6, 2018, Hennepin County Child Protection received two new reports. The first report alleged, neglect, failure to protect Child 2, Child 3, Child 5, and Child 6 from conditions or actions that present serious endangerment by Ms. Tennin. It was reported that Ms. Tennin was around her children when she was not supposed to be. The reporter did not state why Ms. Tennin was not supposed to be caring for her children. The second allegation alleged physical abuse of Child 4(deceased) by an unknown offender. It was reported that during Child 4's autopsy on February 2, 2018, the medical examiner discovered several loop shaped scars on Child 4's back that are indicative of being struck with a belt or cord. It was also reported that there were two scars on the base of Child 4's genitals.

On February 6, 2018, the Department filed a Child in Need of Protection/Services petition in juvenile court and requested out of home placement for Child 2, Child 3, Child 5 and Child 6. The Department's petition was dismissed following a contested hearing later that day.

On February 13, 2018, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report of educational neglect. The report stated that from October 5, 2017 to January 24, 2018, Child 3 missed 22 full unexcused days of school.

On February 23, 2018, the Department received the toxicology results from the medical examiner stating that there was "no evidence of a drug toxicity/overdose."

On April 4, 2018, the Department was informed that medical professionals determined that neither a viral infection nor the flu were the cause of Child 4's death.

On April 13, 2018, the Brooklyn Park Police Department reported that they have been trying to get in touch with Ms. Tennin so that they could speak with her about the ongoing investigation. It was reported that on April 12, 2018, Ms. Tennin left a voicemail for the police department, where she was slurring her words and appeared to be intoxicated. Ms. Tennin stated that she had been advised by her attorney to not answer any questions to the police department. Ms. Tennin went on to say that she did not want to say anything that would take her "freedom" away.

On May 14, 2018, the Department received a letter dated April 30, 2018 from an expert Pediatric Child Abuse physician from the University of Minnesota and Director of the Otto Bremer Trust Center for Safe and Healthy Children. In drafting this letter, the physician reviewed the following records and documentation:

- Photos: Photo documentation from the Hennepin County Medical Examiner, external examination completed on 2/1/2018
- North Memorial PreHospital Care Report 2/1/2018
- 911 Call - Audio Recording 2/1/2018
- CornerHouse Forensic Interview Report - Date of Interview 12/7/2015
- CornerHouse Medical Examination Report - Date of Examination 12/16/2015
- CornerHouse Forensic Interview Report and Medical Examinations for Siblings of Child 4
- Fairview Health Systems Records for SafeChild Clinic Visits for Siblings
- Medical Records Hennepin County Medical Center
- Medical Records NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center from 5/7/2009 - 5/23/2017

In addition to the records review, the physician had personally conducted the CornerHouse medical examination of Child 4 and his/her siblings on December 16, 2015. Further still, the physician personally conducted a medical evaluation of Child 4 on August 30, 2016 at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital.

During the examination in December 2015, Child 4's back was notable for multiple linear and curvilinear hyperpigmented lesions on his back. The physician assessed that these lesions may have been the residua of eczema but may also represent healed cutaneous trauma. The anogenital examination did not reveal any injuries or scars to the genitals. While Child 4 did not provide a history of sexual or physical abuse during the forensic interview from December 2015, he/she did indicate an avoidance of the topic of concern. During the medical examination, the physician took the medical history separately from his/her mother, and while Child 4 did not disclose a history of being hit or kicked, he/she indicated avoidance when the physician asked about body parts by shutting his/her eyes, becoming quiet, and counting his/her fingers.

The physician also conducted medical examinations Child 2, Child 3, and Child 5. Child 5 reported that Child 2 had physically and sexually abused her/him. Child 5's physical examination was reassuring. Child 2 reported that a cousin had physically and sexually abused him/her, but Child 2's physical examination was reassuring. Child 3 did not provide a history of physical or sexual abuse, and his/her physical/anogenital examination was reassuring.

In August 2016, the physician saw Child 3 and Child 4 for medical evaluations related to concerns of sexual assault by a relative. Both children had reassuring cutaneous and anogenital examinations.

In reviewing the medical examiner's photographs of Child 4 on the date of death (February 1, 2018), the physician reports that they are notable for (1) extensive patterned linear and looped injuries or scars, and (2) linear scars at the base of the genitals. While some linear and curvilinear lesions were present in December 2015, the lesions were not as prominent as the current lesions/scars in the ME's photos, giving the physician the impression that the lesions may represent healed cutaneous trauma. The current patterned linear and looped lesions and scars are clinically diagnostic of physical abuse or inflicted injury as they represent injuries or scars as the residua of injuries from direct impact with an object or weapon.

In addition, the linear scars at the base of the genitals -- in the absence of a history of a surgical procedure or a well-described, documented accidental injury -- are most consistent with the healing of lacerations that occur as the result of a traction injury on the genitals. Usually a single laceration occurs as the result of a traction injury, so the presence of two separate scars is additionally concerning for multiple injuries to the genitals. These injuries were not noted during the December 2015 exam, and they are clinically diagnostic of physical abuse or inflicted injury.

The cause of death is undetermined.

On the morning of May 22, 2018, the CPI called Ms. Tennin in an attempt to interview her. Ms. Tennin told the CPI that she did not have any information to give to the Department. During the phone conversation between the CPI and Ms. Tennin, Ms. Tennin alternated between anger, rage, sadness and happiness which was concerning to the Department. It was also noted that the CPI spoke with Ms. Tennin around 9:30 a.m. and Ms. Tennin reported that all her children were with her and she was stuck at a gas station. This was also concerning to the Department as the children should have been in school. Since May 22, 2018, Ms. Tennin has not maintained contact with the Department.

The Department is concerned that Ms. Tennin knew - or at a minimum, should have known -- about these injuries to her child and never made any report to medical providers or child protection. This concern is elevated in light of (1) Ms. Tennin's criminal conviction for malicious punishment where she and Mr. Larry Tennin used a belt to whoop a child in their care and (2) the myriad of child protection reports received by the

Department indicating that Ms. Tennin's children are in need of more protection/services than Ms. Tennin has been capable of providing.

On May 22, 2018, law enforcement responded to a welfare check at the Tennin family address due to a report that a young child (Child 5) had run from his/her house screaming while an older sibling (Child 2) and the mother attempted to retrieve her. Eventually, police recovered Child 5 and Child 2. Child 5 was visibly upset and alleged that her mother had threatened her. Ms. Tennin was interviewed by another officer, and she was extremely wound up and wanted to make sure her children were ok. Ms. Tennin kept explaining that Child 5 had a nightmare prior to leaving the house. Ms. Tennin explained that Child 5 has been seeing a therapist due to prior sexual abuse suffered when he/she was younger. Ms. Tennin also believed Child 5 was upset about the death of Child 4 and may have post-traumatic stress from these incidents. Eventually, Child 5 calmed down and seemed to be doing better. All of the other children advised officers that they did not see anything physical happen between Ms. Tennin and Child 5, and they did not make any disclosures of immediate harm or show signs of physical abuse.

An interview with a witness revealed that he/she had heard a door slam and a female screaming, that he/she observed Child 5 running down the street looking back at the house, that Child 2 started running after Child 5 after Mom told her to get back home (and this only made Child 5 run faster), that Child 5 appeared extremely afraid, and that he/she was concerned about the children's welfare as they are never allowed to go outside and Ms. Tennin refuses all help. He/she also stated that he/she had observed instances of abuse in the past, but believed it was several years ago on Mother's day.

Law enforcement cleared the scene and cross-reported this incident to Child Protection on June 6, 2018.

On May 23, 2018, the Department filed a Child in Need or Protection/Services and an Order to Show Cause was entered requiring Ms. Tennin to appear in court on June 28, 2018, to show cause as to why an order should not be granted requiring her to cooperate with services and/or removing the children from her care.

On June 18, 2018, a new report came into the Department of neglect, failure to provide necessary supervision or child care arrangements to Child 2 by Ms. Tennin, neglect, environmental hazards regarding Child 2, Child 3, Child 5 and Child 6 by Ms. Tennin, threatened injury of Child 6 by Ms. Tennin. A call came into 911 that the reporting party's child, Child 3, ran away 5 to 10 minutes before the call. Before dispatch could obtain much additional information, the call was disconnected. Brooklyn Park police responded to the home of Ms. Tennin. Upon arrival, Ms. Tennin immediately told officers they were not welcome in her home and walked outside in a jerky motion. At first, Ms. Tennin denied calling 911 regarding Child # 3 running away, later she admitted to calling because she was angry with Child 3 for throwing maggots on the side of her house. Ms. Tennin said she did not know the answers to basic identifying questions that police asked to collect information about Child 3 for the runaway report. Ms. Tennin was uncooperative and unwilling to complete the runaway report. Ms. Tennin reported that she had maggots in her skin, pointing to what appeared to be burn marks on her skin. There were no maggots. Ms. Tennin reported that she was upset that Child 3 had allegedly thrown

maggots all over the door, although police found no evidence of this. Ms. Tennin kept talking about the "rat tailed maggots." Ms. Tennin did not appear drunk and did not smell of alcohol but was rambling, and appeared to possibly be on something. Police asked Ms. Tennin if any of her other children were in the home and Ms. Tennin stated that only she had Child 3 had been home as her other children were staying with friends or family members.

Police searched the area looking for Child 3. During the search, officers found another child who was identified as Child 2 at a nearby park sleeping in a swing in the rain around 4am. It was reported that Child 2 was soaked to the skin and shivering because he/she was so cold. Child 2 reported that he/she left the house on Friday evening, three days prior and had been living in the park due to Ms. Tennin yelling and screaming at him/her and because he/she thought Ms. Tennin was going to hit him/her. Ms. Tennin had not reported Child 2 as missing.

Child 2 helped officers locate Child 5 at a nearby family friend's house. Child 2 and Child 5 were taken to a local children's hospital. The whereabouts of Child 6 were unknown but officers suspected Child 6 was in the care of Ms. Tennin, after talking with relatives who had previously cared for Child 6. Officers returned to Ms. Tennin's home. No one answered the door after officers pounded on the door for several minutes and there was no way for officers to see inside the house to verify if Child 6 was in the house. Based on the belief that Child 6 may have been in imminent danger of harm, due to Ms. Tennin's prior behavior and dishonesty about the location of her other children, officers forced their way into the home.

When officers entered the residence, there was standing water on the floor and live extension cords plugged into the wall, laying in the water on the floor. There were mattresses strewn on the back deck and yard, and there were mattresses along with garbage under the deck. Additional garbage and canned food was laying all over the upstairs floor. There was an odor that smelled of old chemical use. Ms. Tennin came out of a bathroom and demanded to know why officers were in her house. Officers secured Ms. Tennin. Ms. Tennin stated that Child 6 was in the bathroom. Ms. Tennin continued to behave erratically even after she was secured in a squad car while officers searched the home for her children.

Officers found Child 6 in the bathroom wrapped in a blanket. The officer asked Child 6 if they were OK, to which he/she responded that his/her eyes were burning because Ms. Tennin had sprayed chemicals. Child 6 reported feeling better now. Child 6 had a mark on his/her forehead that appeared discolored and peeling. Child 6 also stated that his/her feet hurt because he/she kept slipping on the puddles inside the house. Child 6 was taken to the same local children's hospital as his/her siblings. Child 3 was not located in the home. Ms. Tennin was transported to a local hospital for evaluation.

On June 18, 2018, the hospital reported that Ms. Tennin's toxicology report came back positive for amphetamines. The hospital reported that Ms. Tennin was uncooperative with

hospital staff and had to be restrained. Ms. Tennin reported to hospital staff that she believed there were maggots in her bed and that there were maggots and parasites inside her. The hospital report states that there were no maggots on or in Ms. Tennin. It was reported that Ms. Tennin was uncooperative with the exam and health history, and was unable to carry on a conversation. It was reported that Ms. Tennin was verbally and physically aggressive with police and emergency medical services (EMS) staff, attempting to strike them, verbally threatening them and spitting on them. After Ms. Tennin arrived at the emergency room, she continued to be verbally and physically aggressive and threatening to staff.

On June 18, 2018, Child 2, Child 5, and Child 6 were interviewed at CornerHouse. During the interviews, the children disclosed:

1. Ms. Tennin threw boiling water and bleach on the floors and walls because of the worms and termites but the children did not see any worms or termites.
2. Ms. Tennin poured hot water on his/her head
3. Ms. Tennin beats the children with a belt from Walmart (it used to be black but when it broke, she began using a white one.)
4. Sometimes Ms. Tennin beat them with an extension cord when they were really bad.
5. When they were really, really bad, Ms. Tennin would pour hot water on them or beat them.
6. Ms. Tennin does not let them sleep if they are in trouble.
7. Ms. Tennin does not feed them when they are hungry.

On June 19, 2018, the CPI consulted with the physician who examined the children at the local children's hospital. In summary, it was reported that there were marks on the children consistent with being burned by hot water or chemicals. There were also patterned scars consistent with being hit with a belt or a cord. The children repeated their disclosures of physical abuse to medical personnel.

On June 19, 2018, the Department received a letter from the Brooklyn Park Community Development Department Code Enforcement and Public Health Division regarding the conditions of Ms. Tennin's house. The letter states that on June 18, 2018, representatives from the division conducted an inspection of the property. At the time of the inspection, staff observed an accumulation of miscellaneous items/trash, soiled mattresses, unsanitary surfaces and conditions, lack of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and several other building and plumbing issues. The division indicates that the property is unfit for human habitation. The only persons who may enter the property are those present to make repairs or correct deficiencies.

On June 20, 2018, a petition was filed in Hennepin County District Court Probate/Mental Health Division seeking to commit Ms. Tennin as mentally ill, see court file # 27-MH-PR-18-730. The matter is set to be heard June 25, 2018.

Child 3 was eventually found in Bloomington, MN late in the day on June 18, 2018. She participated in a Cornerhouse interview on June 20, 2018. All four children are currently on a police hold.

Tedrick Lamont Davis:

Tedrick Lamont Davis is the father of the five children who are subjects of this petition. Mr. Davis has an extensive child protection history in Minnesota with reports of physical abuse, endangerment, neglect, threatened injury and multiple reports of sexual abuse (see prior child protection history, Section 8.)

There is an active Order for Protection (OFP) in effect against Mr. Davis for Ms. Tennin on behalf of their minor children, see file #27-DA-FA-16-8166. The OFP stems from sexual abuse that took place in Mr. Davis' home along with verbal and physical abuse the children suffered while living with Mr. Davis. The court found that Mr. Davis verbally threatened, choked and hit Child 2 and told him/her to stop lying about the sexual abuse. The court found that Mr. Davis verbally threatened to inflict severe injury to Child 3. The court found that Child 2 attempted to call police to report the sexual abuse and Mr. Davis forcibly stopped Child 3 from making the phone call. A maltreatment finding was made against Mr. Davis for failure to protect Child 2 and Child 3. The children reported during a CornerHouse interview that they do not feel safe in Mr. Davis' home and do not feel protected or valued by Mr. Davis. The court found that domestic abuse was committed against Child 2 and Child 3 by Mr. Davis and that Mr. Davis engaged in conduct making the children fearful of imminent physical harm when they raised concerns about the sexual abuse they were suffering. The court further found, that the evidence indicated that the other minor children would be endangered in Mr. Davis' care. Mr. Davis' shifting positions and seeming indifference to the evidence that the children had suffered abuse was considerably alarming. The OFP spells out that Mr. Davis is not to have any contact with any of the minor children and is granted no parenting time.

There is an additional OFP against Mr. Davis granted to a party not subject to this petition, dated May 3, 2018, stemming from an open domestic abuse case, see file # 27-CR-18-14810.

7.0 Previous procedural and/or child protection history:

The parents have had prior Child Protection involvement as follows:
Hennepin County Child Protection records indicate that Ms. Tennin received child protective services from November 4, 1999, until February 2, 2000.

On August 1, 2006, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report alleging physical abuse of Child 1 by Ms. Tennin, a relative, and the relative's girlfriend. The report

indicated that Child 1 hit Child 2, who was an infant at the time. Ms. Tennin and Mr. Larry Tennin's girlfriend then reportedly held Child 1 down while Mr. Larry Tennin reportedly whooped Child 1 with a belt. Ms. Tennin was criminally charged and convicted of Malicious Punishment of a Child; Hennepin County Court File No. 27-CR-06-052590.

A CHIPS Petition was filed in Hennepin County Court, Juvenile Division, on August 4, 2006; Hennepin County Court File No. 27-JV-06-11635. The Court terminated jurisdiction on November 30, 2006.

On December 9, 2009, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report alleging endangerment due to weapons. The report stated that police were dispatched to Ms. Tennin's home due to a gun being fired many times outside of the home. Upon entering the home, five to six small children were observed, ranging in age from 0 to 5 years old. Two or three additional children were present. A black semi-automatic handgun was found in the basement on a couch. Mr. Larry Tennin admitted to police that the gun belonged to him. According to the report, the children were within "easy reach" of the weapon, and a neighbor identified Mr. Tennin as the shooter. Findings of maltreatment were made against Mr. Tennin and the case closed following the completion of the child protection investigation.

On March 3, 2015, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report alleging neglect following a domestic altercation between Ms. Tennin and Mr. Tedrick Davis. The report stated that Ms. Tennin went to Mr. Davis' house to pick up her children. Mr. Davis approached Ms. Tennin's vehicle and stated that he wanted to talk to her. Mr. Davis became angry and upset when Ms. Tennin told him that she did not have time to talk. Mr. Davis then opened the passenger door and threw a child car seat at Ms. Tennin, striking her in the face. Ms. Tennin locked the doors and drove off, then called the police. Mr. Davis followed Ms. Tennin and was able to open the rear door of her vehicle as the lock did not work on that door. Mr. Davis grabbed a crow bar and raised it over his head. Mr. Davis told Ms. Tennin to leave, but she waited in her vehicle until police arrived.

The case was accepted as a Family Assessment and closed upon completion of the assessment.

On October 19, 2015, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report alleging neglect of Child 1 and Child 7 due to failure to provide necessary medical care. It was reported that the children were brought to HCMC by ambulance after being involved in a car accident. They were reported to have been passengers in the vehicle. Child 1 incurred minor injuries including leg pain and a punctured left hand. Child 7 had hip and leg pain resulting from the accident. Ms. Tennin arrived at the hospital and refused treatment for the children. She then removed the children from the hospital against medical advice.

The case was accepted as a Family Assessment and closed upon the completion of the assessment.

On December 1, 2015, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report alleging sexual abuse of Child 2 by a female juvenile relative (hereon referred to as Child 7). Additionally, the report alleged sexual abuse of Child 2, Child 3, Child 4, Child 5, and Child 6, by their sibling, Child 1.

The report stated that Ms. Tasha Tennin had taken temporary custody of a relative's child, Child 7. Child 7 moved into the family home around September 25, 2015, and left the home on November 22, 2015. Child 7 reportedly babysat Ms. Tennin's children while Ms. Tennin was at work. After Child 7 moved out of the home, Child 2 reported to Ms. Tennin what had happened while Child 7 was living in the home. It was reported that Child 7 would put the other children to bed, then call Child 2 into Child 2's room and shut the door. Child 7 then reportedly pulled down Child 2's pants and put Child 2's "stuff" in Child 7's mouth. It was also reported that Child 7 put Child 2 on the bed and Child 7 straddled child 2, putting Child 2's "stuff" in Child 7's "area". Child 2 would call for help and resist, but Child 7 then hit Child 2. The alleged abuse reportedly happened 3-4 times between late September and November, 2015. Child 2 reportedly wanted to tell Ms. Tennin, but was afraid that Child 7 would hurt Child 2.

It was later reported that 16 year-old Child 1 had sexually assaulted the other children in the home.

On December 2, 2015, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report alleging sexual abuse of Child 1 by a male paternal cousin. It was reported that the abuse happened repeatedly from the time Child 1 was 7 years old until Child 1 was 11 years old.

CornerHouse interviews, interviews by law enforcement and the investigating social worker were conducted.

During the course of the investigation, Child 1 moved to the home of a maternal grandmother via family arrangement.

The following maltreatment findings were made:

- Maltreatment findings made against Child 7 for the sexual abuse of Child 2, Child 3, Child 4, and Child 5.
- Maltreatment finding made against Child 7 for the physical abuse of Child 2.
- Maltreatment findings made against Child 1 for the sexual abuse of Child 2 and Child 3.

On January 7, 2016, the case was transferred to the Child Protection Field Unit for on-going services and support.

On May 4, 2016, Hennepin County Child Protection received a subsequent report alleging threatened injury of Child 2 and Child 3, by their mother, Ms. Tennin. It was reported that Ms. Tennin threatened to break Child 2's arms and legs if Child 2 "touches anyone". Additionally, it was reported that Ms. Tennin was heard at Child 3's school yelling up the stairs at Child 3. Ms. Tennin allegedly yelled to Child 3 "I swear to God if you put your hands on any of them (referring to her other children), then I will come up there personally and beat your ass. Now get the fuck out of my face". According to the report, this was the third or fourth time Ms. Tennin has been heard threatening to physically harm the children. It was the second report the Department has received for this issue.

The case was assigned as a traditional investigation. Ms. Tennin stated to the investigating social worker that she is not willing to meet as she already has a current child protection social worker.

It was brought to the Department's attention that Child 1 is no longer able to reside with Child 1's maternal grandmother due to the grandmother's medical condition. With assistance from the Department, the family was unable to come up with a living arrangement for Child 1, who is not permitted to have contact with Child 1's siblings at this time, therefore, the child was placed in foster care pursuant to an Order for Immediate Custody signed by Hennepin County Court.

On June 13, 2016, over the objection of the Department, the Court ordered that Child 1 return to Ms. Tennin's care under the protective supervision of the Department.

On August 24, 2016 Hennepin County Child Protection received a report of sexual abuse of Child 2 and Child 3 by a kin. This kin was charged and convicted and is now in treatment at Red Wing Juvenile Correctional Facility. Child 2 and Child 3 were interviewed at Cornerhouse. Information from those interviews includes the following: The sexual abuse occurred on multiple occasions over the past summer, when they were on an extended visit at a relative's home. The sexual abuse included oral and anal penetration. Mr. Davis, father of Child 2 and Child 3, knew what was happening. Mr. Davis told one of the children that he would break that child's arms and legs if the child told anyone.

On September 13, 2016, the Child Protection Investigator spoke with Child 1 and Child 3's therapist. The therapist reported that Child 1 had admitted to wanting to have sexual contact with Child 1's siblings again. Child 1 was staying with Relative 1 pursuant to a family arrangement due to concerns that the other children would not be safe if Child 1 remained in the home. Child 1 completed a psychosexual evaluation and participated in phase 1 of sex specific treatment at Headway but is refusing to participate in phase 2 as recommended by the therapist. The therapist reiterated that Child 1 should not be around other children right now. The therapist believed that the only way to get Child 1 to go into treatment would be an inpatient program rather than outpatient.

On September 22, 2016, the assigned child protection social worker learned that Child 1 had returned to the family home. Ms. Tennin reported she picked up the child from the relative because the child was missing therapy appointments and was not following the rules in the home. The Department believes the other children are at risk if Child 1 remains in the home. On September 23, 2016, Ms. Tennin agreed to have Child 1 go back to Relative 1's home.

Child 2, Child 3, Child 4, and Child 5 all attend individual and family therapy at Power of Relationships. The mental health providers have shared with the Department their concerns that Ms. Tennin continues to need ongoing support from the Department. The providers report that Ms. Tennin has been bringing the children to their therapy appointments and has participated in family therapy. With the new sex abuse allegations, Ms. Tennin seems to be struggling and the children will need continued case management and therapeutic services along with family therapy with Ms. Tennin.

On November 18, 2016, Hennepin County Child Protection received a report of neglect, failure to protect Child 2 and Child 3 from serious endangerment by their father, Tedrick Davis Sr., and a report of physical abuse, threatened injury of Child 1, Child 2, Child 3 Child 4, Child 5 and Child 6, by Mr. Davis Sr. According to the report, Child 2 and Child 3 told Mr. Davis Sr. that they were sexually assaulted. Mr. Davis Sr. told them that they were lying, and if they said anything to anyone he would break their arms. Mr. Davis Sr. became aggressive, Child 2 ran out of the house in fear and Mr. Davis dragged him back into the house and "backhanded" him. It was also reported that on one occasion, when Child 2 and Child 3 were being sexually assaulted by a family friend, Mr. Davis Sr. was passed out from drugs and /or alcohol in the same room the sexual assault took place. Child 2 and Child 3 were reportedly yelling for their father to help them, but he did not wake up. Mr. Davis Sr. has threatened all the children with physical harm while using a crow bar as a weapon.

There was a maltreatment finding of neglect, failure to protect Child 2 and Child 3 by Mr. Davis Sr. and a maltreatment finding of threatened injury of Child 2 and Child 3 by Mr. Davis Sr.

8.0 The parents have a criminal history, summarized as follows:

Tasha Tennin has the following criminal convictions in Minnesota:

- Public Nuisance-Annoy/Injure/Endanger Safety, 07/13/2007, 02-VB-07-7957;
- Malicious Punishment of a Child, 06/10/2008, 27-CR-06-052590;
- DWI-Operate Motor Vehicle-Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours, 09/18/2008, 02-CR-08-10828.

Tedrick Davis Sr. has the following criminal convictions in Minnesota:

- Possession of marijuana in motor vehicle, 09/04/1998, 27-CR-98-064694;
- Possess marijuana in a motor vehicle, where drive or owner, 07/23/2008, 27-VB-08-1080680596;
- 3rd Degree DWI-Operate Motor Vehicle-Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours, 07/31/2012, 27-CR-12-24160;
- Traffic DWI-Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Alcohol, 02/23/2015, 27-CR-14-36741;
- Pending charge: Domestic assault, intentionally inflicts/attempts to inflict bodily harm on another, Domestic assault, commits act to cause fear of immediate bodily harm or death, Disorderly conduct, Arraignment 7/6/2018, 27-CR-18-14810.

9.0 Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §260C.503, Subd. 2 (a) (1-7), the Petitioner is required to immediately file a Termination of Parental Rights petition:

- (1) the child has been subjected to egregious harm as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 14;
- (2) the child is determined to be the sibling of a child who was subjected to egregious harm;

10.0 Termination of parental rights is in the best interests of the children for the following reason:

Based on the factual information provided above, the Department believes it is in the child's best interests for the parental rights of the Respondent Mother to be severed.

Based on the factual information provided above, the Department believes it is in the child's best interests for the parental rights of the Respondent Father to be severed.

11.0 The allegations set forth herein support termination of parental rights under Minn. Stat. §260C.301, Subd. 1 (b), subsections:

- (2) that the parent has substantially, continuously, or repeatedly refused or neglected to comply with the duties imposed upon that parent by the parent and child relationship, including but not limited to providing the child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, education, and other care and control necessary for the child's physical, mental, or emotional health and development, if the parent is physically and financially able, and either reasonable efforts by the social service agency have failed to correct the conditions that formed the basis of the petition or reasonable efforts would be futile and therefore unreasonable;
- (4) that a parent is palpably unfit to be a party to the parent and child relationship because of a consistent pattern of specific conduct before the child or of specific conditions directly relating to the parent and child relationship either of which are determined by the court to be a duration or nature that renders the parent unable, for the reasonably foreseeable future, to care appropriately for the ongoing physical, mental, or emotional needs of the child. It is presumed that a parent is palpably unfit to be a party to the parent and child relationship upon a showing that the parent's parental rights to one or more other children were involuntarily terminated or that the parent's custodial rights to another child have been involuntarily transferred to a relative under Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 260C.201, subdivision 11, paragraph (e), clause (1), section 260C.515, subdivision 4, or a similar law of another jurisdiction.
- (6) that a child has experienced egregious harm in the parent's care which is of a nature, duration, or chronicity that indicates a lack of regard for the child's well-being, such that a reasonable person would believe it contrary to the best interests of the child or of any child to be in the parent's care; or

WHEREFORE, Petitioner asks the Court to terminate the Respondent Mother and Respondent Father's parental rights because the Petitioner can prove by clear and convincing evidence the child(ren's) health, safety or welfare is endangered and that the termination of parental rights is in the best interest of the child(ren).

WHEREFORE, Petitioner asks the Court to terminate any and all parental rights the parents have to the above-named child.

N10029 (04/06/2017)


Petitioner, by and through its undersigned agent, hereby verifies that the above allegations are true to the best of the Petitioner's information and belief.

State of Minnesota)
) ss.
County of Hennepin)

I declare under penalty of perjury that everything I have stated in this document is true and correct.

06/21/2018

Date



Ivy Villani,
Social Worker
For the Hennepin County Human Services and
Public Health Department, Petitioner
Hennepin County, Minnesota

ebk

This petition has been drafted under the supervision of the undersigned who believes that reasonable grounds exist to support the allegations.

06/21/2018

Date



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NOTICE TO PARENTS

If Juvenile Court orders your child to participate in programs or services while living with you, or if your child is placed in detention, a correctional or treatment facility, or foster care, you may be required to help Hennepin County pay for the cost of programs or services. THIS NOTICE IS NOT A COURT ORDER. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR CHILD, CONTACT THE ASSIGNED PROBATION OFFICER OR SOCIAL WORKER. As a parent, you are responsible for the expenses of your child, even if you do not agree with the Juvenile Court's order:

- Any income or resources that belong to your child, such as SSI, RSDI, or child support, must be used to reimburse Hennepin County for the cost of care, examination, or treatment of the child. There are some limited exceptions. Minnesota Statutes §§252.27, 260B.331, and 260C.331.
- If the income and resources of the child are not enough to pay the full cost of care, examination, and treatment, each parent may be required to pay an additional fee, based on each parent's ability to pay, as determined by the Hennepin County Parental Fee Unit. This determination will be made according to Minnesota Statutes §§252.27, 260B.331, or 260C.331 and the Hennepin County Board Fee Policy.
- The amount of the parental fee (if any) will be withheld from each parent's income according to Minnesota Statute §518.6111.
- Parent(s) must enroll the child in any health or dental insurance plan available to the parent(s) on a group basis or be liable for the full cost of medical and dental services, according to Minnesota Statute §518.171.
- Hennepin County can be awarded a judgment against the parent(s) for any unpaid court-ordered fees, and/or for any income or resources of the child that were not properly used to reimburse Hennepin County for the cost of care.
- Parent(s) who refuse to pay fees that the Juvenile Court has ordered may be found in contempt of court.

If your child receives services ordered by Juvenile Court, or is held in detention, or enters out-of-home placement, you will be required to cooperate with all of the following:

- A financial investigation by the Hennepin County Parental Fee Unit, to determine the amount (if any) of your parental fee.
- The signing of any documents necessary to allow the income and resources of the child (if any) to be paid directly to Hennepin County while the child is receiving services, or is in detention or placement.
- The signing of a form to assign the child's health or dental insurance benefits (if any) to Hennepin County.

If you think your child will enter out-of-home placement or will receive services ordered by Juvenile Court, and you currently have the child covered by a health insurance policy, you may wish to investigate whether your policy will cover the placement or services, and obtain any needed authorization.

If you have any questions about the financial cost (if any) to you and/or your child, of detention, placement, or services ordered through Juvenile Court, you may call the Hennepin County Parental Fee unit at: (612)-596-7994. **IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS RELATED TO PLACEMENT OR SERVICES, CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S PROBATION OFFICER OR SOCIAL WORKER.**