

1 JULY 2, 2003

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3 MS. POSKAR: Number 9, please, Your Honour. Your  
4 Honour, present with me is Ms. Laura Forrest. She is a  
5 social worker from the intake department, who is currently  
6 assigned to the Kematch family, and with her is her client,  
7 Ms. Samantha Kematch. If I could ask Ms. Forrest to  
8 outline the nature of the order that agency is seeking, as  
9 well as the plan for the family?

10 THE COURT: Samantha, could you just stand beside  
11 the worker and listen carefully to what she says?

12 Yes, your full name and position?

13 MS. FORREST: My full name is Laura Marie  
14 Forrest. I'm an intake worker with Child and Family  
15 Services.

16 Our plan, at this point, is to request a three-  
17 month order of temporary guardianship with respect to  
18 Phoenix, the intent being to work with either the parents,  
19 to resolve any of the issues of concern that resulted in  
20 the child coming into care so that she could be reunited  
21 with them.

22 Currently, both the parents are separated.  
23 Samantha is the only parent that has come forward and  
24 expressed any interest or willingness to work with the  
25 agency on reuniting with Phoenix. We don't know what the  
26 father's plan because he refuses to meet with us or to call  
27 us. So at this point, we are prepared to continue our  
28 efforts to work with Samantha so that she can perhaps get  
29 Phoenix back in her care. Both parents have guardianship -  
30 - or custody of the child. No sole guardianship has been  
31 determined in a court of law.

32 MS. POSKAR: And what are the expectations of Ms.  
33 Kematch?

34 MS. FORREST: At this point, the case is being

1 transferred to a family service worker for the long-term  
2 follow-up on the case. It would be suggested that perhaps  
3 a parenting capacity assessment or some parenting support  
4 programs be incorporated in with Samantha, so that she can  
5 address any issues of concern from past involvement with  
6 her. Family visits will occur on a regular basis. We're  
7 also going to explore the possibility of a place of safety  
8 option with some friends that have just appeared today, so  
9 that we can look at placing the child with a family who  
10 knows her, as opposed to foster care.

11 THE COURT: And where is she now?

12 MS. FORREST: She's in a foster home right now.

13 THE COURT: Does Phoenix have siblings?

14 MS. FORREST: She has a half-sibling that's in  
15 care with an aboriginal agency.

16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

17 Samantha, is your full name Samantha Dawn  
18 Kematch?

19 MS. KEMATCH: Yes.

20 THE COURT: You are the mother of Phoenix  
21 Victoria Hope Sinclair?

22 MS. KEMATCH: Yeah.

23 THE COURT: And did you hear what the worker  
24 said?

25 MS. KEMATCH: Yeah.

26 THE COURT: Did you understand what she said?

27 MS. KEMATCH: Yeah.

28 THE COURT: What I understood was that the agency  
29 wants a three-month temporary order, and they would be  
30 working with you, with the hopes of returning Phoenix, and  
31 it's possible that she may be placed with someone other  
32 than she's with at this time. Samantha, did you want to  
33 deal with this matter on your own today or did you want to  
34 speak to a lawyer first?