

Since Ethan was originally placed on determinate sentence probation in December 2013, all knowledgeable involved parties have anticipated that his probation would be transferred to an appropriate District Court upon his nineteenth birthday in accordance with section 54.051 of the Texas Family Code. As expected, in November 2015, the State filed a Motion seeking transfer of Ethan's determinate sentence probation. As was stated yesterday in open court, the hearing on the State's Motion to Transfer to an appropriate District Court has been reset.

It is our understanding that paperwork has been filed by Ethan's counsel in Mexico that will terminate the ongoing Mexican immigration proceedings. We believe that this will result in Ethan's return to the United States within the next few weeks. We anticipate that Ethan will be present in the 323rd Judicial District Court at the upcoming hearing on the State's Motion to Transfer. We further anticipate that, with Ethan personally present for the proceedings, the Court will lawfully transfer Ethan's probation to an appropriate Tarrant County District Court. As expressly provided for by section 54.051(d) of the Texas Family Code, that transfer will take effect upon Ethan's nineteenth birthday.

Given the limited nature of the matter currently pending before the Court and the legal confidentiality applicable to juvenile justice matters under Texas law, it would not be appropriate for us to address any other issues concerning Ethan's case at this time.

Scott Brown and Wm. Reagan Wynn  
Counsel for Ethan Couch