



ATTACHMENT 13

William W. Cobb
PO Box 274
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

June 6, 2023


c/o Robert Sheftman, Esq.
7 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT 05602


Dear 

As you know I represented  in the civil case. During the course of the case, I filed documents with the Court that included confidential information related to you, your children and the juvenile proceedings. I never should have done that. Those records were confidential and were supposed to remain confidential. I failed to follow the rules of the Court and I failed to maintain the standards of the Court. For my violations, I have been suspended from the practice of law in Vermont. This was appropriate given the harm that I caused you and your family.

I want you to know that I am truly sorry for all of what I did. I am sure it upset and embarrassed you to review the motion that I filed that included information about you and your children that was in the juvenile court and that you had every right to believe would remain there. I am sure that you and your family suffered from this, and I apologize. It was wrong of me. If the same thing had happened to me or another family member, I would have been extremely upset. On top of the grief that you were dealing with following the loss of your son, it was the last thing you needed. I cannot undo what's been done, but I want you to know that I am taking steps to make sure I never do something like this again.


Parties to a case, such as yourself, should have confidence that lawyers are doing things correctly. I failed to do this, and I'm sorry. I hope that you can recover from all this. Again, I'm sorry for any emotional distress that I caused you and your family.

Sincerely,


Bill Cobb

William W. Cobb
PO Box 274
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

June 6, 2023


c/o David Sleigh, Esq.
364 Railroad Street
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

Dear ,


I want to apologize for my mistakes in handling your case. I should have watched the video in a timely manner. I should have filed the motion for conditions of release related to your parent-child contact. When you wanted to switch attorneys, I should have sat down with you to discuss your case and to address your concerns. It was wrong of me to handle these things the way I did and I'm sorry for what I did. I know that it was a stressful time for you and that my actions caused you more stress and emotional harm. As you know, I have been suspended from the practice of law due, in part, to the violations related to your case. This was appropriate given the harm I did to you and to Vermont lawyers in general.

You and I have known each other for many years, coaching little league together, watching our kids grow together. I will always have positive memories of your role as a parent and community member in Peacham. Nothing that has happened will change that.

I know that your case has been difficult. I hope everything is working out and that you will be able to resume your positive role as a dad.


I want you to know that I take full responsibility for my actions and am truly sorry that I did the things I did that caused you harm. Sorry for everything.

Sincerely yours,



Bill Cobb

William W. Cobb
PO Box 274
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility
19351 US HWY 49N
Tutwiler, MS 38963
Inmate: 

June 6, 2023

Dear ,

As you know, I violated the Vermont Rules of Professional Conduct by communicating with Attorney David Sleight about your case. It was wrong of me to do that, and I am suspended from practicing law in Vermont, in part, because of this wrongful communication. This was an appropriate sanction/punishment given the harm I did to you.

I am sorry that I was not more mindful of the rules related to confidentiality. Because of my wrongful disclosure, I know that I caused you stress, anger, and emotional harm. On top of everything that you have had to deal with, this was not something you needed or deserved. I would have been upset, too, if someone else had done this to me. Any information that you gave me was supposed to be protected and safe with your lawyer. By talking to someone else about this information, I breached confidentiality, violated ethics rules, and shattered any trust that we once had. I am truly sorry for all of this and for causing you any harm. It was thoughtless on my part, and I should have been more mindful of the duties related to confidentiality. During my time away from the practice of law in Vermont I have spent time reviewing all rules of professional responsibility, especially those related to confidentiality, and will make sure that I never do something like this again.

Please know that I understand your feelings about what I did. I also want you to know that I take full responsibility for my actions and apologize for all of it. I'm sorry I let you down.

Sincerely,



Bill Cobb