



## **CPS – “C”over-up, “P”retend nothing is happening, and “S”ign off on it...**

*by Jessica S. Grigsby on 02/09/11*

Today marks the start of the claim against Sacramento County Child Protective Services filed by John Demas of our firm on behalf Kyle Doe. Prior to today’s press conference announcing the filing of claim, Kyle drew national media attention for his daring escape from torture and captivity from a Tracy home in December 2008.

I say this marks the start of the claim, however, the ordeal that Kyle suffered at the hands of CPS’ ineptitude started over ten years ago. CPS turned a blind eye and brushed numerous allegations of abuse and neglect under the rug for years. In doing so, they left a vulnerable child in the hands of an abusive monster. Having worked on this claim, I can attest to the excitement of two states of angry: “Lawyer” angry – where I just cannot believe how systematically negligent an agency can be in attempting to carry out the most basic of duties; and “Mom” angry – where I cannot believe any child was forced to endure such a horrific existence.

Although CPS is charged with protecting children, time and time again they missed glaringly obvious signs that Kyle was in eminent peril. For example, in 2001, CPS accepted a half-paged, hand-written sheet of paper, stating falsely that Caren Ramirez was Kyle’s aunt, as proper authority to leave Kyle with Ramirez indefinitely. They did not try to find Kyle’s mother who Ramirez alleged signed the note, or substantiate claims that Ramirez was a relative.

A couple of years ago I tried to adopt a dog from a rescue. I filled out lengthy applications, was subjected to a background and reference check, and provided proof of financial stability. I then had to complete an interview and two home visits, before ultimately being told that

because I had two children under the age of five in my household, I could not adopt the dog. But in this case, CPS granted a human life to a mad-woman based solely upon a half-sheet piece of paper.

I think John said it best, "We are prepared to prove that CPS completely abandoned its legal responsibility to protect Kyle not once, but repeatedly, after failing to act on multiple reports and substantial evidence of abuse. Ultimately, this is serving notice that the CPS system is badly broken and needs to be immediately fixed."