

AFFIDAVIT

I, CLARABELLE ASUNCION GELATO, hereby declare:

I was born on October 13, 1966, at Mindoro, Philippines.

I am a United States citizen.

I married Pablo Gelato on September 25, 2002, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Pablo and I have lived together from approximately July 2000 until the present. We have had no periods of separation from each other since we started living together. We have no plans to terminate our marriage.

Pablo and I have a longstanding relationship. We have had a serious relationship since March 2000. We have a very close and loving relationship. Pablo provides me with companionship, friendship, and emotional support. If Pablo is not allowed to live with me in the United States, his separation from me would cause me great pain and sadness.

I have had a very unhappy childhood and two prior unsuccessful marriages. I was the victim of neglect and abuse as a child. My first husband had a drug problem and my second husband suffered from bipolar disorder. As a result of my childhood and prior relationships, I have had feelings of abandonment, isolation, and distrust of men which have caused me to suffer depression throughout my life. Pablo has helped me learn to deal with the problems of my past. He is the first man that I have been able to trust and feel secure with. Since Pablo and I started the process for him to become a permanent resident of the United States, I have been very worried about the prospect that he will be denied a waiver of inadmissibility and not be able to continue to live with me in the United States. I have begun to feel depressed and apprehensive and have suffered from lack of motivation, loss of appetite, difficulty sleeping, and nightmares. I

believe that my condition would completely deteriorate to the extent that I would not be able to function if I lost Pablo from my life. See attached letter from Spencer Koffman, MFT.

In our household, Pablo and I share cleaning and laundry, but Pablo does all of our cooking and grocery shopping. He is very creative, and I enjoy being taken care of in this way. Prior to having a relationship with Pablo, I had a poor and unhealthy diet. Now, I believe that I am eating better and feeling better. If I lost Pablo from my life, I believe that I would revert back to my prior dietary habits, which would result in a decrease in the quality of my life and health.

Before Pablo and I became involved, I drank alcohol and smoked cigarettes. I have since stopped both. I believe that I would resume these unhealthy habits if I lost Pablo from my life.

Pablo and I want to have children. We have talked about having a family, and are both looking forward to that experience. If Pablo is not allowed to remain in the United States, I believe that I would not have the opportunity to be a mother, particularly since I am now thirty-six (36) years old.

I am currently employed by Merrill Lynch, et al., as a Sales Assistant. I earn \$42,000.00 per year as a base salary. Pablo is employed by Molino Delicatessen as a clerk. He earns approximately \$2,500.00 per moth. Even though I earn more than Pablo, if he is not allowed to live with me in the United States, I would suffer financial hardship because I would no longer have the benefit of his financial contribution. This would result in a decrease in my lifestyle and standard of living. In addition, I have substantial credit card debts. Because of the financial contribution I receive from Pablo, I have been able to begin paying off my debts. If I lose that financial contribution, I will not be able to meet my obligations and may have to resort to bankruptcy, which would affect my credit in the future.

I do not want to leave the United States to live with Pablo in Italy if he is not permitted to live with me in the United States. I have lived in the United States since I was four (4) years old. I have substantial family ties in the United States, including my parents and a brother and sister. Although I have lived in Italy in the past, I was very unhappy there. I felt like a second-class citizen in Italy. I believe that I would have difficulty in finding employment in Italy comparable to my employment at the present time, particularly as Filipinos are looked down upon in Italy, and generally considered to be only good for domestic employment.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct and this affidavit is executed on October 22, 2001, at San Francisco, California.

CLARABELLE ASUNCION GELATO