

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
AT FRANKLIN**

**AARON SOLOMON,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**ANGELIA SOLOMON,  
MELANIE HICKS, WYNN HICKS,  
ANNA SMITH, KAMI ABBATE, and  
JOHN DOES 1 – 25,**

Defendants.

No. 2021-200

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**AFFIDAVIT OF GRACIE SOLOMON**

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In connection with this case, I, Gracie R. Solomon, attest that the following information is truthful to the best of my ability and, under penalty of perjury, state as follows:

1. My name is Gracie R. Solomon, and I reside in Williamson County, Tennessee.
2. My birthday is in October 2006, and I am currently fourteen years old.
3. I have testified in court previously, and I understand the requirement that I tell the truth about all matters. I also understand and appreciate that it would be an extremely serious violation of law if I did not tell the truth.
4. The information in this affidavit is based on my knowledge and not that of anyone else. I have tried to be detailed about the things I have written here, but this affidavit does not contain all of the information I know about these matters.
5. My attorney, Alex Little, has helped me type this affidavit, but I sat beside him while he did so, and these words are my own. I have not spoken to my mother about this affidavit, and she has not seen it nor has she been involved at all in me making it.

6. I have been involved in legal cases for as long as I can remember and at least since I was six years old. Since then, I have never felt like the courts have listened to me or respected what I have told them. Every time that I have talked about what my father, Aaron Solomon, has done to me they have not done anything about it or done anything to help me.

7. All of these years I have been told that what I know to be true is not true and, instead, it was the result of my mother, Angie Solomon, "brainwashing" me. This is extremely upsetting to me, because I know what I experienced, and I know what happened to me. My mother has not told me to do anything other than say the truth, and that's what I've been trying to do.

8. Because people have never believed me, and because people have never helped me when I have spoken up before, it's often hard for me to talk about these things. I have never known who I could trust and, especially when it comes to people involved with the court or DCS, I back away and get quiet. Sometimes I think this makes them not believe me, and I wish they would.

9. Also, because I have felt like no one has believed me, or helped me, I wanted to make a video that told my story so that maybe someone would help me. The idea for making the video was my own, and friends of mine helped me do it. I was able to do that earlier this year.

10. When the video was posted on YouTube, especially when I saw other people's reaction to it, I felt empowered and encouraged and hopeful that someone would help me. I didn't know when the video was going to be posted online, but I hoped it would be posted at some point.

11. Everything I say in that video is true. And all the words in it are mine.

12. When I made my video, my friend Anna Smith made a video the same day. It has been posted to YouTube, and I have watched it. Everything that Anna says I told her is true. She accurately stated how and what I told her. I was so happy that Anna was willing to help me, and she has been a great support for me since I was younger.

13. After my video was posted, I learned that there was an Instagram account about it. I do not follow the account, but I do follow Wynn Hicks on Instagram. I saw that he posted a story about my video and the Instagram account that he called "Freedom for Gracie." I have read his story, and it is accurate as far as I know. It also made me happy to see his statement, and his support is so meaningful to me—he is almost like a brother.

14. Since my video was posted online, I have felt good about it. It hasn't made me stressed, and I haven't experienced any bad things as a result. When I spoke to my therapist about it, I told her how empowered I felt by the video, and she said she was proud of me.

15. In the video, I talked about a number of things that happened to me. I'm going to provide more details about those things here.

16. I want to explain what I mean about Aaron molesting me when I was younger. I call him Aaron because I hate calling him my dad. And I hate it because of what he did to me and my family. Anyway, there are a few things that stick out in my mind. One of those was what he did when he bathed me.

17. When I was young girl Aaron would bathe me. I don't have any memories of my mother bathing me; just Aaron. Many times, and maybe even every time, he would wash my vagina. This happened between the ages of maybe six and eight years old. I remember that it would make me uncomfortable when he touched me there. As I grew older, I realized that he was not washing me; he was molesting me.

18. When he would bathe me, he would spend more time than necessary touching my vagina and rub it over and over, or I would feel a pushing sensation on it. On some occasions, I would feel something inside of my vagina. Until I was 11 or 12, I thought it was a bar of Dove soap inside of me. I now believe it was his finger or fingers.

19. After I would get out of the bath, my vagina would hurt. As I stood in a towel, I remember my body shaking and my vagina, inside and outside, burning in pain.

20. After he stopped bathing me, when I was maybe 9, 10, or 11, he would also do inappropriate things. What I recall most clearly is him holding his cell phone in a manner that made me think he was taking photos of my naked body. This happened more than ten times.

21. Here is how that would happen: Often, when I would bathe or shower at those ages, there was not a towel in the bathroom, or Aaron would tell me he needed to bring one. If I asked for one, he would come into the room with both a towel and his cell phone. But he did not hold the phone like you would normally do if you were just carrying it. Instead, he held it upright, with the back camera of the phone in a position to photograph or video me standing naked. And I saw him many times holding the camera in that position, which was not natural if he was not using it.

22. There are many other things that happened when I was with Aaron that made me uncomfortable at the time, and which I now believe were part of my reaction to him molesting me. For example, when I lived with him, he often would sit near me or touch me. I know that this is not necessarily unusual for a parent, but I remember always feeling incredibly uncomfortable and scared when he was near me. As I got older, I believe this feeling came from me knowing that something wrong was happening but not understanding it.

23. Even more recently, when I saw Aaron after Grant died, he came into the house and immediately started playing with my hair and caressing my shoulders, neck, and back. This made me feel disgusted and sick to my stomach.

24. The last time Aaron molested me I was 11. It was a few months before my twelfth birthday, and it happened in Asheville, North Carolina at the Holiday Inn Express.

25. Grant, Aaron, and I were in North Carolina for Grant to play baseball. Aaron and I had to drive back for a court hearing, and we left Grant there in North Carolina. It was a long drive, and Aaron said we had to stop in Asheville, which was on the way to home. We stopped at a hotel, which was the Holiday Inn Express. I did not know the hotel name at the time, but I remembered lots of details, so in the last few months I was able to find out which one it was by looking on the internet.

26. When we got to the hotel, I was already scared about spending the night with him, and I remember a conversation about whether the room had two beds or only one. I wanted two beds because I was worried about what he would do to me. He did not respond, but when we got to the room, there was only one bed.

27. That night, I slept on one side of the bed, and he was on the other. When I first went to sleep, there was a pillow between us, which he put there. I fell asleep quickly.

28. What I remember next is being woken up by his feet rubbing my feet. I realized the pillow was gone, and he was laying right beside me. I was facing away from him, but he had one hand on my shoulder, and it felt like he was holding me still.

29. The next thing I remember feeling was his penis on my lower back near my bottom. It was erect. I was scared and kept scooting to the edge of the bed until there was no room. I then felt his body moving slowly in a thrusting motion. As he did that, I felt his penis move gradually down to the bottom of my butt. I felt scared the entire time, but I didn't make any noise. At one point, it felt like his penis went inside me.

30. As this was happening, I felt like I was drifting in and out of sleep. But I am sure what I remember was real and not a dream. The next morning and the whole next day, I felt a pain and itchiness around and inside my vagina, but the itchiness was not like a bug bite. It was just

painful. The pain I felt was similar to what I remember when he would molest me in the bath, but it felt worse.

31. At the time, I did not know what had happened. I knew I was scared, uncomfortable, and hurting. For example, back then, I did not know what was pressing against me. Now that I'm older, I know that it was his erection. And I know now that he was pushing his penis against my vagina.

32. I don't believe I told anyone what happened in Asheville until October of that year, when I mentioned something to my therapist. I did not have the words then to describe what had happened. Later, I shared more details about it with Grant, my mother, and my therapist. But I never had provided all of the details like this to anyone because I never felt safe to do so.

33. Now that I have been able to tell my story publicly, and my friends and community have supported me, and now that I have my own lawyer who will fight for me, I feel safe.

FURTHER THIS AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Gracie Rhodes Solomon  
Gracie Rhodes Solomon

Date: 6/4/21

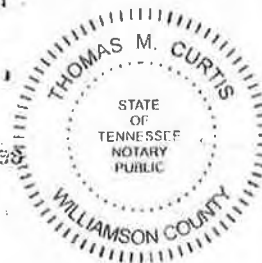
STATE OF TENNESSEE )

COUNTY OF Williamson )

Sworn and subscribed to me on this  
the 4 day of June, 2021.

Thomas M. Curtis  
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: September 2, 2024




GCA Headmaster Robbie Mason signed the sworn declaration below on June 16, 2021. Gracie Solomon's sworn affidavit was signed under penalty of perjury, but Robbie Mason's sworn declaration was not signed under penalty of perjury. Robbie Mason says nothing to contest Gracie's allegations of child sex abuse, murder, or allegations that GCA educators were well informed about the child sex abuse prior to Grant Solomon's alleged murder. Did GCA Headmaster Robbie Mason or anyone else at GCA tell Carrie Underwood about Gracie Solomon's rape and murder allegations prior to Carrie Underwood's performance three months later at the GCA Benefit Concert on Sept 26, 2021?

### DECLARATION OF ROBBIE MASON

My name is Robbie Mason. I am of majority age and have first-hand knowledge of the following facts:

1. I am the Headmaster of Grace Christian Academy ("GCA").
2. I am aware that certain social media accounts called #freedomforgracie (the "Accounts") have publically stated on more than one occasion that Aaron Solomon stole or misappropriated money from GCA's account.
3. This allegation is false. Aaron Solomon was owed the money at issue and the check was properly issued to him.
4. Any statement, insinuation, or implication that Mr. Solomon stole or misappropriated money GCA is false.
5. I declare the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated this 16 day of June, 2021.

  
Robbie Mason

30855919.1

**Ex-Grace Chapel Pastor Steve Berger signed the sworn declaration below on June 14, 2021. Pastor Berger stated under penalty of perjury that Grant Solomon did not inform him about Gracie Solomon's alleged child sex abuse. Pastor Berger stated their "private" discussion was about how Grant could grow closer to Christ. Gracie Solomon stated in her YouTube video that Pastor Berger lied about his meeting with Grant Solomon.**

### **DECLARATION OF STEVE BERGER**

My name is Steve Berger. I have first-hand knowledge of the following events:

1. I am the founding Pastor of Grace Chapel in Leipers Fork, Tennessee.
2. In January of 2021, I completed a three-year long transition out of the role of Senior Pastor of Grace Chapel and now serve in the role of Founding Pastor. I also serve on Grace Chapel's Elder Board and still preach there occasionally.
3. I have learned that a group of social media accounts known as #freedomforgracie (the "Accounts") have made public allegations that Grant Solomon met with me and shared information that his sister was sexually abused by her father, Aaron Solomon, and that the family lived in fear of him.
4. The Accounts have further alleged that I and Grace Chapel failed Gracie Solomon and her family because I did not report these allegations to the authorities.
5. The Accounts' allegations are untrue.
6. I did meet with Grant Solomon on or about May 8, 2018, at 11:30 am. We met privately in my office.
7. Our conversation consisted of a discussion of spiritual matters, namely how Grant could grow closer to Christ.
8. At no time in this meeting (or otherwise) did Grant report to me any sexual abuse allegations of any kind involving his sister, his father, or any other person.
9. At no time in this meeting (or otherwise) did Grant express to me that he was afraid of his father or that his father had abused him or Gracie in any way whatsoever.



10. As a mandatory reporter, I would have had the obligation to report any allegation of abuse to the proper authorities. I take this responsibility very seriously and would have promptly reported any such allegations if they had been made.

11. At some point after my meeting with Grant, I learned that Angie Solomon had reported allegations of abuse to an employee of Grace Chapel on April 30, 2018. That employee accompanied Ms. Solomon to the Williamson County Sherriff's Department to make a report of the allegations on May 4, 2018, and an investigator was assigned to the case. At no time did Grant mention anything to me about his mother's trip to the Sherriff's Department or any claims of abuse.

12. Upon Grant's death from a tragic accident on July 20, 2020, the family asked me to speak at his funeral, which I did.

13. The family held Grant's funeral at Grace Chapel.

14. The family rode with me from the funeral to the cemetery.

15. I am also told that the GoFundMe campaign related to the Accounts indicated that I had donated \$10. I did not make that donation and any statement or implication that I did so is false.

16. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated this 14 day of June, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Berger

30850547.1

**GCA student Wynn Hicks, a long-time friend Gracie and Grant Solomon, signed the sworn affidavit below under penalty of perjury on June 4, 2021. Three and a half months later, Carrie Underwood performed at the GCA Benefit Concert to raise money for GCA.**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
AT FRANKLIN**

<b>AARON SOLOMON,</b>	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
<b>v.</b>	)	
	)	
<b>ANGELIA SOLOMON,</b>	)	No. 2021-200
<b>MELANIE HICKS, WYNN HICKS,</b>	)	
<b>ANNA SMITH, KAMI ABBATE, and</b>	)	
<b>JOHN DOES 1 – 25,</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Defendants.</b>	)	
	)	

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**AFFIDAVIT OF WYNN HICKS**

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In support of the forgoing petition, I, Wynn Hicks, attest that the following testimony is true and accurate and, under penalty of perjury, state as follows:

1. I am an 18-year-old resident of the State of Tennessee, am competent to provide the testimony stated herein, and make this testimony based on my personal knowledge.
2. I live in Franklin, Tennessee with my mother, Melanie Hicks, and my father.
3. I have known the Solomon Family, including Angie Solomon, Aaron Solomon, Grant Solomon, and Gracie Solomon, for approximately ten (10) years.
4. I did not create the Instagram account known as “@FreedomForGracie” or any other social media account with a similar name, purpose, or content (“the Accounts”).
5. I am not now, nor have I ever been, an administrator of the Accounts.
6. I do not now possess, nor have I ever possessed, the password, log-in information, or other credentials for the Accounts.

7. After the “@FreedomForGracie” account on Instagram followed me, I followed it, but to the best of my recollection I did not post any comments to it or to any of the Accounts.

8. From the Accounts, I learned about the videos of Gracie and Anna (“the Videos”) that were posted to YouTube, but I did not know anything about either video until after they were created and posted online.

9. I am not now, nor have I ever been, the administrator of the YouTube account that posted the Videos.

10. I do not now possess, nor have I ever possessed, the password, log-in information, or other credentials for the YouTube account that posted the Videos.

11. On May 13, 2021, I posted a story to my own Instagram account, @wynnwicks\_, that discussed Gracie and Grant and what they experienced (“Story”).

12. A screenshot of my Story is included on page 1 of Exhibit C to the Complaint, which for ease of reference is also attached as Addendum A to this affidavit.

13. At some point, the @FreedomForGracie Instagram account took a screenshot of my Story and posted it to their stories. I did not do that myself.

14. In the Story, I said: “For about 8 years, she has been rejected, shut down, and she has had the door slammed in her face every time someone speaks up.” This statement related to the way that her school, her counselor, and the court have refused to help Gracie.

15. In the Story, I said: “Since 2013, after Angie and Aaron first divorced, the kids were dying to go with their mom, because their dad is abusive, evil, and absolutely disgusting.” This statement is based on my personal knowledge of Gracie and Grant wanting to live with their mother, which they both expressed to me directly. They also both told me directly that they wanted to do so because they believed their father was “abusive, evil, and absolutely disgusting.”

16. In the Story, I said: "I have seen them cry their eyes out just thinking about having to go home with Aaron, and it breaks my heart." This statement is based on my personal knowledge, as I have seen both Grant and Gracie cry in these circumstances.

17. In the Story, I said: "Grant sat down with me one time and told me everything. He said that his father abused his mom, and threatened her every night. As seen in the video, Aaron always gave Gracie baths. Grant said that Gracie would come out of the bath saying, 'daddy was touching me and it was hurting.'" This statement is based on my personal knowledge. Specifically, this conversation with Grant occurred at Grace Christian Academy, in the sanctuary, in what I believe was Ninth Grade.

18. In the Story, I said: "Grant said he would frequently find sex toys in his dad's bag." This statement is based on my personal knowledge. Specifically, Grant made this statement to me in the same conversation described in paragraph 17.

19. In the Story, I said: "One time, Grant asked me if he could sleep over at my house, which he normally did. However, this time it was different. Grant was forced to stay at his dad's house, and he was terrified. He was so scared that his dad was going to hurt him, so he ran away and stayed the night at my house, just to stay away from his dad." This statement is based on my personal knowledge of the events I described. Specifically, this event occurred in approximately Tenth or Eleventh Grade.

20. In the Story, I said: "Another time, Grant's dad strangely invited us over to his house for a sleepover. He was very controlling towards us and we were all uncomfortable. As we were watching a movie, I went and looked downstairs to see where Gracie was, and I looked over the upstairs railing and saw her dad holding her very close on the couch, while she was very scared

and uncomfortable.” This statement is based on my personal knowledge of the events I described. Specifically, this event occurred in approximately Eighth or Ninth Grade.

21. In the Story, I said: “[Grant] suspiciously passed away. Also, the medical records say that the death did not match with the accident.” This statement is a reflection of my opinion about how Grant died, which is based on medical records I was told about and some of which I saw when they were posted to the Accounts. In particular, among other things, I do not believe that Grant could have been drug by the car as Aaron claims without any signs of scrapes or cuts.

22. In the Story, I said: “This time, I am not letting her get rejected by the juvenile court, I am not letting her get rejected by her school, I am not letting her get rejected by her dad, and this time, she is not going to get rejected at all.” This statement refers to my desire, among other things, that Gracie no longer be treated poorly by the courts, the school, and her father.

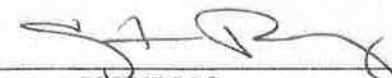
FURTHER THIS AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

  
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WYNN HICKS

Date: 6/4/2021

STATE OF TENNESSEE )  
 )  
COUNTY OF Williamson )

Sworn and subscribed to me on this  
the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
My Commission Expires: 6/3/2024



GCA student Anna Smith, a long-time friend of Gracie and Grant Solomon, signed the sworn affidavit below on June 4, 2021. Three and a half months later, Carrie Underwood performed at the GCA Benefit Concert to raise money for GCA.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
AT FRANKLIN

AARON SOLOMON,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
ANGELIA SOLOMON,	)	No. 2021-200
MELANIE HICKS, WYNN HICKS,	)	
ANNA SMITH, KAMI ABBATE, and	)	
JOHN DOES 1 – 25,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

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AFFIDAVIT OF ANNA SMITH

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In support of the forgoing petition, I, Anna Smith, attest that the following testimony is true and accurate and, under penalty of perjury, state as follows:

1. I am an 18-year-old resident of the State of Tennessee, am competent to provide the testimony stated herein, and make this testimony based on my personal knowledge.
2. I live in Franklin, Tennessee with my mother, Kami Abbate, and my father.
3. I have known the Solomon Family, including Angie Solomon, Aaron Solomon, Grant Solomon, and Gracie Solomon, for more than five (5) years.
4. I did not create the Instagram account known as “@FreedomForGracie” or any other social media account with a similar name, purpose, or content (“the Accounts”).
5. I am not now, nor have I ever been, an administrator of the Accounts.
6. I do not possess nor have I ever used the password, log-in information, or other credentials for the Accounts.

7. A few months ago, I made a video about Gracie and Grant and what their father did to them (“Video”). When I made my Video, I believe it was going to be shown in court. I did not know when I made the video that it was going to be posted to YouTube and social media.

8. In the Video, I read a statement I wrote, which is attached as Addendum A to this affidavit (“Statement”). The words are my own, and I tried to read them verbatim.

9. In my Statement, I said:

Grant then went on to tell me his father, Aaron Solomon, had molested Gracie, his younger sister. I asked him how long his dad had been molesting Gracie and he explained he remembers it all the way back from when she was a newborn. I was completely shocked and asked why he hadn’t told anyone. Grant told me he was terrified of his father because Aaron had “so much power”. He explained that Aaron had convinced the judge to give him full custody and his father didn’t let him see his mom, Angie Solomon, for years. He then told me Aaron could get away with anything. He said he had watched Aaron try to kill his mother but was luckily unsuccessful. Only a little bit later, Aaron forcefully took Grant and Gracie from their home and never took them back to see their mom. Grant said he had a terrible feeling and even tried to open the car door to jump out onto the highway. Aaron grabbed him by his wrist so hard, Grant thought he had broken it. Later, Aaron had told both of the children that Angie was DEAD. Grant said he was just now (in eighth grade) able to see his mom every other weekend. He knew his dad could take away the “privilege” of seeing his mom whenever he wanted. I asked him if his dad had abused him as well. He said his dad constantly told him he would never be good enough, too fat, too slow, stupid, etc. He said his dad would take out his anger on Grant and hit him frequently.

This statement is based on my personal knowledge. Specifically, this conversation with Grant occurred when we were both in Eighth Grade at Grace Christian Academy. We had this conversation over Snapchat because, according to Grant, he was afraid of his father finding his messages to me. The conversation took place in a series of messages, back-and-forth, over the course of one evening.

10. In my Statement, I said: “Gracie experienced her father inappropriately touch her on the North Carolina trip. Gracie remembers him specifically requesting ONE queen bed in their

hotel room so that he and Gracie had to sleep together. He then positioned himself behind Gracie. Gracie said she could feel him moving back and forth and shake while feeling something hard against her back (an erection).” This statement is based on my conversations with Gracie. Specifically, this information was conveyed to me by Gracie a few weeks after it happened. Gracie and I were at my house, and I noticed that she seemed not to be herself. I asked her if something was wrong, and I specifically asked again whether anything had happened with her father in Asheville. After I asked her, she told me the information that I included in my Statement.

11. In my Statement, I said: “Grant turned eighteen. A month later, Grant died. There is no explanation. It makes absolutely no sense. The way the incident supposedly happened doesn’t even make sense. Everyone is genuinely confused.” This statement reflects my genuine opinion about what I know of Grant’s death. In particular, I have a hard time understanding the inconsistencies in some of Aaron’s statements as opposed to the medical and police records.

12. The same day I made my Video, Gracie made her own video (together, “Videos”).

13. I am not now, nor have I ever been, the administrator of the YouTube account that posted the Videos.

14. The same day the Videos were posted to YouTube, I found out about the “@FreedomForGracie” Instagram account. After the account followed me on Instagram, I followed it back.

15. To the best of my recollection, I have never commented on the Accounts.

16. I have read the allegations about me in paragraph 60 of the Verified Complaint, and these allegations are unequivocally false.



FURTHER THIS AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

*Anna Smith*  
ANNA SMITH

Date: 6/4/2021

STATE OF TENNESSEE

COUNTY OF Williamson

Sworn and subscribed to me on this  
the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

*[Signature]*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
My Commission Expires: 6/3/2024



## ADDENDUM A

I met Grant in the second semester of my eighth grade year when I transferred from Heritage Middle School to GCA. He and Wynn Hicks were my first friends at Grace Christian Academy.

The first conversation I had with Grant started off pretty intense. He received a text and then announced to our lunch table, "I hate my dad." I kind of laughed it off thinking it was a typical teenager "hating" their parents. My own father is an alcoholic and extremely abusive (luckily I no longer have to see him). Jokingly, I said, "I bet I have you beat." Grant looked me dead in the eyes and said to text him later.

Grant then went on to tell me his father, Aaron Solomon, had molested Gracie, his younger sister. I asked him how long his dad had been molesting Gracie and he explained he remembers it all the way back from when she was a newborn. I was completely shocked and asked why he hadn't told anyone. Grant told me he was terrified of his father because Aaron had "so much power". He explained that Aaron had convinced the judge to give him full custody and his father didn't let him see his mom, Angie Solomon, for years. He then told me Aaron could get away with anything. He said he had watched Aaron try to kill his mother but was luckily unsuccessful. Only a little bit later, Aaron forcefully took Grant and Gracie from their home and never took them back to see their mom. Grant said he had a terrible feeling and even tried to open the car door to jump out onto the highway. Aaron grabbed him by his wrist so hard, Grant thought he had broken it. Later, Aaron had told both of the children that Angie was DEAD. Grant said he was just now (in eighth grade) able to see his mom every other weekend. He knew his dad could take away the "privilege" of seeing his mom whenever he wanted. I asked him if his dad had abused him as well. He said his dad constantly told him he would never be good enough, too fat, too slow, stupid, etc. He said his dad would take out his anger on Grant and hit him frequently.

Throughout our high school years, Grant and I stayed close (I had also become very close with Gracie) and I had the opportunity to testify for both him and Gracie in court, or so I thought. Grant was playing baseball in North Carolina and was unable to be at court. I waited for hours with Wynn Hicks and Gracie in order to testify for them.

Suddenly, Angie ran into the back room telling Gracie she had lost and Gracie had to go back with her dad. It was one of the most heartbreaking things I have ever experienced. Gracie clung to her mom and sobbed and begged for anyone to listen to her. Aaron screamed at her and told her she had no choice and she was leaving with him to go back to North Carolina. Angie and Gracie both fell to their knees, completely broken. Scott Parsley, Aaron Solomon's attorney, showed absolutely zero sympathy and told Aaron, "Just go rip her off Angie right now and take her. She's yours." He talked about Gracie like she was a piece of property to Aaron (Grant had told me many times how despicable Scott Parsley is and how Parsley is willing to do ANYTHING to win a case). The court system had yet again failed and a child was once again placed into the hands of an abuser.

Because of the court's lack of concern and cowardly behavior, Gracie experienced her father inappropriately touch her on the North Carolina trip. Gracie remembers him specifically requesting ONE queen bed in their hotel room so that he and Gracie had to sleep together. He

then positioned himself behind Gracie. Gracie said she could feel him moving back and forth and shake while feeling something hard against her back (an erection). Bottom line, it is INAPPROPRIATE to simply sleep in the same bed as your preteen daughter as a man.

CPS and the court continue to ignore Gracie's pleas for help. On a second hearing, I waited in the back rooms of the courthouse from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm. I once again was not allowed to speak on the behalf of Grant and Gracie. Still, the judge failed to help the innocent children from a dangerous abuser. I was furious.

No one is listening to Gracie or Grant even though they continually ask for help. I decided to make an appointment with Amy Curle, the counsellor at GCA. I told her everything I knew and she explained to me there was nothing she could do about it. Gracie had also told the counsellor why she didn't want to see her father and she was shut down. The administrators at GCA told her they KNEW about the abuse allegations but it happened years ago and it was time to move on. Aaron is allowed at all extracurricular events at GCA, around hundreds of little children for him to prey on. He is constantly taking pictures of all the athletes (all sports) during games as he sits completely isolated from the rest of the parents. Once again, the people put in positions of power failed to help or even show remorse.

Not to mention, Aaron molested Gracie in CURRENT years in North Carolina and no one has the right to tell her to move on. Everyone seems to dismiss her truth. Angie never did win custody in the court battle and Grant and Gracie never got justice. I could see the toll this took on Grant at school. He would miss random days and then would come back not smiling or being his upbeat self. I texted him to check in and he told me he didn't understand why his dad won and was able to walk away free. He said he deserves to be locked up for life. I agree completely.

Then, Grant turned eighteen. A month later, Grant died. There is no explanation. It makes absolutely no sense. The way the incident supposedly happened doesn't even make sense. Everyone is genuinely confused. Grant was finally an adult. An adult's statement in court is instantly more respected. Grant is his mom's and sister's protector. Without him, Aaron will feel a sense of power and control once again. In fact, it is exactly what is happening currently. Now that Grant is no longer present (physically), Aaron is taking actions to forcefully get Gracie back. He is ignoring all of Gracie's boundaries. He is willing to tear her away from her mother and do whatever it takes to be successful. Why? Because Grant can no longer stop him. Aaron Solomon WAS a danger to Grant and STILL is a danger to both Gracie and Angie.

Anna Smith