

EXHIBIT A

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Honorable Salvador Mendoza, Jr.

4 Attorneys for Plaintiffs James Blais and Gail Blais

5
6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

7 JAMES BLAIS and GAIL BLAIS,)
8) NO. 20-CV-00187-SMJ
Plaintiffs,)
9) PERMANENT INJUNCTION AND
vs.) FINAL JUDGMENT
10)
WASHINGTON STATE)
11 DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN,)
YOUTH AND FAMILIES,)
12)
Defendant.)
13 _____)

14 WHEREAS Plaintiffs have commenced this action by filing the complaint
15 herein; this Court has earlier entered an order granting in part and denying in part
16 Plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction [ECF No. 56], the parties have agreed
17 to settlement of this action without final adjudication of any issues of fact or law,
18 and without Defendant admitting that any issue of fact or law other than those
19 relating to jurisdiction and venue are true;

20 **Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment - 1**

1 THEREFORE, on joint motion of Plaintiffs and Defendant, it is hereby

2 ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED as follows:

3 The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF),
4 when considering an application for a foster family home license or a family home
5 study:

6 1. Is permanently enjoined from using or applying Policy 6900 to a foster
7 family home license applicant or a family home study applicant;

8 2. Is permanently enjoined from requiring a foster family home license
9 applicant or a family home study applicant to express agreement with any policy
10 regarding LGBTQ+ issues that conflicts with the applicant's sincerely held religious
11 views;

12 3. Is permanently enjoined from using Department July 2018 Roll Out
13 Questions & Answers to the extent inconsistent with this agreement; and

14 4. May take an applicant's views on LGBTQ+ issues into account when
15 reviewing foster family home license applications or family home study
16 applications. However, the applicant's sincerely held religious beliefs regarding
17 LGBTQ+ issues cannot serve to disqualify them. DCYF will accommodate the
18 applicant's sincerely held religious beliefs regarding LGBTQ+ foster children
19 placed in their care. But the applicant agrees to follow the child's case plan and to

20 **Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment - 2**

1 allow the physical, medical, mental, psychological, emotional, cultural, and social
2 needs of foster children who identify as LGBTQ+ or who may so identify in the
3 future to be met in their care. The child’s case plan and needs will be assessed and
4 determined by the dependency court, the Department, and the child’s legal parents
5 or guardians.

6 Nothing in this Order prohibits DCYF from making placement decisions
7 based upon Policy 6900 or the individual medical, psychological, or other needs of
8 the child DCYF is considering placing with a foster parent.

9 IT IS SO ORDERED and the Clerk is directed to close the file on this case.

10 DATED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

11

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SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR.
United States District Judge

13

14 APPROVED:

15 _____
s/ Jerome R. Aiken

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20 **Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment - 3**

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By: s/ Jeffrey C. Grant.

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20 **Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment - 4**

EXHIBIT B

FILED IN THE
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

Jun 04, 2021

SEAN F. McAVOY, CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

JAMES BLAIS and GAIL BLAIS,

No. 2:20-cv-00187-SMJ

Plaintiffs,

**ORDER GRANTING PARTIES’
JOINT MOTION FOR ENTRY OF
PERMANENT INJUNCTION AND
FINAL JUDGMENT**

v.

WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN,
YOUTH, AND FAMILIES,

Defendant,

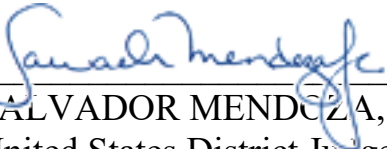
On June 4, 2021, the parties filed a Joint Motion for Entry of Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment, ECF No. 85. Consistent with the parties’ agreement and this Court’s prior Orders, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. The Parties’ Joint Motion for Entry of Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment, **ECF No. 85**, is **GRANTED**.
2. The parties’ proposed Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment, **ECF No. 85-1**, is **APPROVED, ADOPTED,** and **INCORPORATED** in this Order by reference.
3. All pending motions are **DENIED AS MOOT**.
4. All hearings and other deadlines are **STRICKEN**.

5. The Clerk’s Office is directed to **ENTER JUDGMENT** for Plaintiffs
as provided in **ECF No. 85-1** and **CLOSE** this file.

IT IS SO ORDERED. The Clerk’s Office is directed to enter this Order and
provide copies to all counsel.

DATED this 4th day of June 2021.



SALVADOR MENDOCZA, JR.
United States District Judge

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EXHIBIT C



LICENSING DIVISION (LD)

Licensing Waiver (Foster Home)

PROVIDER NAME Jennifer and Shane DeGross	PROVIDER NUMBER 749950	DATE OF REQUEST 1/23/2025
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LICENSOR NAME
Deirdre Prince/Olive Crest West Sound

This form is used when a foster home is unable to meet a WAC also known as a minimum licensing requirement (MLR) for more than 30 days. The licensor also supports the foster home remaining licensed OR the WAC requires this form to be completed.

Waivers are for general or suitable other foster homes, or for relatives for specific WACs that are not available as non-safety exemptions.

NOTES ON USE OF WAIVERS:

Waivers are necessary when the WAC uses "must" language rather than "may." This does not allow DCYF discretion and therefore requires a waiver.

Waivers are approved in rare circumstances.

Waivers are time limited and usually child-specific (or staff-specific if requested by GC or CPA).

Waivers may result in the loss of IV-E funds for all children placed in the home.

Please discuss the specific situation with your Area Administrator.

General Foster Care, Group Care Facilities, or Child Placing Agencies (CPA)

WAC REFERENCE 110-148-1520(9)	WAC REFERENCE
WAC REFERENCE	WAC REFERENCE
WAC REFERENCE	WAC REFERENCE
WAC REFERENCE	EFFECTIVE DATES From: date of licensure To: three years minus one day

Explanation and Justification for Request

Describe the request, the explanation of the mitigation plan, anyone you discussed the request with, and the reasons why the request should be granted.

WAC 110-148-1520(9) "You must support a foster child's SOGIE by using their pronouns and chosen name, and respecting the child's right to privacy concerning their SOGIE." Jennifer and Shane DeGross are seeking a waiver of this WAC subsection.

The DeGrosses stated they will support a child's right to privacy concerning their SOGIE. They plan to avoid the use of pronouns which are contrary to the child's biological gender. They will instead refer to the child by their name. Regarding using a child's chosen name, they anticipate they will use a child's chosen name as long as it doesn't require them to violate their religious beliefs. They stated this decision will be context dependent. They plan to mitigate this waiver by: ensuring that everyone in the home/extended family is respectful of a child; ensuring a child is not bullied because of their SOGIE identity; providing a safe environment so the child does not feel they have to hide their feelings or emotions from the caregivers; supporting a child speaking openly about their SOGIE identity. A child is welcome to discuss their identity and their beliefs with the caregivers/home, who would love and respect the child without judgment or condition to change their SOGIE.

The DeGrosses are willing to undergo training, so long as they are not required to change their sincerely held religious beliefs. The caregivers would work collaboratively with Olive Crest and DCYF to follow the child's case plan and ensure the best interests of the child are met and the caregivers do not have to personally take any action, including speech, that conflicts with their sincerely held religious beliefs.

This request should be granted so that Jennifer and Shane DeGross can continue to serve as foster parents to children in need while allowing them to comply with their sincerely held religious beliefs.

This waiver is approved under the following conditions:

Olive Crest West Sound agrees to the following:

- Certify the home for respite of children or youth ages 2-18 years OR placement of children ages 2-5 years.
- Not place in this home on an emergent basis, to include receiving care, to have time to thoroughly review the needs of each individual child or youth.
- Prior to any potential placement in this home, thoroughly review the child’s case plan including but not limited to the CHET screening, written case plan, CIPR, or other information provided by the Department to determine if the DeGross family will agree to and follow the case plan.
- Defer the recommendation for adoption until there is identified child(ren) whose individual needs can be assessed for permanency at that time.
- Inform the potential child or youth’s caseworker/social worker that this family has a waiver on the home for WAC 1520(9) prior to placement to verify there is no known gender diverse identity considerations.
- Ensure the home is only utilized for placement or respite within licensed capacity and not approve an overcapacity.
- Ensure caregivers complete LGBTQIA+ Basics for Supporting Youth within the first year of their license. The training: LGBTQIA+ Basics for Supporting Youth (eLearning) can be found on the Alliance for Professional Development, Training, and Caregiver Excellence website

Licensing Approval Review and Signature

LICENSING DIVISION SUPERVISOR NAME Richelle Burns <i>Richelle Burns</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied DATE 08/07/2025
LICENSING DIVISION AREA ADMINISTRATOR NAME Alexandria Latta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied
LICENSING DIVISION AREA ADMINISTRATOR SIGNATURE <i>Alexandria Latta</i>	DATE 8/7/2025
LICENSING DIVISION FOSTER CARE SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR NAME Marissa Corrales	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied
LICENSING DIVISION FOSTER CARE SENIOR ADMINISTRATOR SIGNATURE <i>Marissa Corrales</i>	DATE 08/07/2025