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**Ref:** Journal Nr. 2007-112/18246

I refer to my previous email of the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2013, wherein I detail that I was notified my daughters had been taken to America for six months. I herewith provide an update on the situation described in that document, and request a ruling for future visitations.

## **1. SUMMARY AND UPDATE**

Tatjana and Sophia spent two weeks with us in Mèze, France, during their autumn holiday in October 2013. During this time we made plans for our next scheduled holiday, which was to fall over Tatjana's birthday on the 30<sup>th</sup> December, and over New Year. When I returned them to Copenhagen, on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013, I said goodbye, expecting to see them soon.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> October, I emailed Maria to agree on flight times for the December holiday. She replied by email saying that she and the girls were on a six month holiday in South America, and added that compensatory visitation could be arranged after their return, in May 2014.

Tatjana contacted me through skype a few days after their arrival in America – as previously explained – and since then Maria has allowed me to speak with Tatjana and Sophia once a week.

They have told me that they have travelled from the USA, to Mexico City and are now in Cuenca, Ecuador.

However, although requested, Maria refuses to specify her travel plans, and will also not discuss any plans for future access.

She also does not discuss travel plans with the children so they are not able to let me know where they will be.

In the meantime I am faced with not seeing my children for half a year, and in fact, face the possibility I may not see them again at all.

I re-iterate my deep concern that Maria may have no intention to return to Denmark:

- Maria has no place of permanent abode in Denmark. She moved into a summer house before leaving on the trip.
- The trip was undertaken in a very secretive and devious manner. I was not

informed about it beforehand, and the children were told to lie about where they would be, and for how long

- She is unable to provide addresses where they will be staying for the next few months, only saying that they will be in "South America"
- The children have been taken out of school. According to Tatjana, Maria will be teaching the children. It is clear that Maria is not working, and does she still have a job to return to in Denmark?

I have abided by every detail of the agreement regarding my children, but time and time again I am left helpless as Maria disregards rulings made and agreements reached, acting with impunity; not handing over the girls' passports, lying about taking them on holiday to South Africa after blocking me doing so, changing dates and times at the last minute so I incur huge costs ...

I would have seen my children several times in the "six months" they have been taken. I have moved my entire family across continents so that we can try to have some form of normal family life that includes my daughters, and this has been working very well. The girls are very happy to spend time with us, and look forward to their visits. Now I am faced with the possibility I may not see them again.

Despite this, I have no choice but to proceed as though I can take Maria at her word, and they will return to Denmark in May.

I thus need to request a ruling in advance of their return regarding compensatory access.

## **2. NECESSITY FOR RULING**

I am approaching Statsforvaltningen for a ruling as Maria has indicated that she will only discuss future access in May 2014. Waiting to negotiate compensatory access at this late date will jeopardise plans that need to be put in place before then.

I am requesting two periods of access:

1. On the girls' return to Denmark in late April/early May 2014.
2. During the Danish summer holiday over July/August 2014.

### **Request for ruling for May 2014**

I have not been provided with an expected date the children will be returned to Denmark, but I would like to see them for two weeks soon after they return in May. I consider it necessary they have time to see and reconnect with their friends and grandmother so as to feel rooted again, but would obviously like to see them as soon as possible, feasibly in the second week of their return to Denmark. Given they have not been in school for most of the year, a further two weeks won't make any difference.

### **Request for ruling in Summer 2014**

As previously ruled, we are allowed to take Tatjana and Sophia with us to visit family and friends in South Africa for the first time since they left for Denmark in 2007.

We have saved in order to be able to afford to do this in 2014, but need to book flights and accommodation well in advance to make it affordable.

We intend to travel over Tatjana, Sophia and Kayla's summer holiday, wherein we have been granted three weeks together from this year.

In the light of the access time that has been taken from me, namely 1st – 16th March 2014 and 25th April – 11th May 2014, plus a weekend visit, I request that the compensatory time be awarded us over their summer holiday 2014.

I request the summer holiday time in 2014 be extended to six weeks from 28 June till 10 August.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JA' with a stylized flourish.

Jason Armstrong