

This is Exhibit " D "

of the Affidavit Catherine Ross
of ~~DIANE NICHOL~~ KAT

sworn MAY 16, 1994

A Commissioner, etc.



May 11, 1994

REFERENCE FOR
KATHERINE ROSS

Katherine Ross cared for my daughter, Melanie Nicol, for approximately two years at the daycare she operated in her home on the Thomas Dolan Parkway. It is a pleasure to talk about the experience for both myself and my daughter.

It is not enough to say that Katherine is a responsible, caring, organized and very committed caregiver for children. In my particular case, these qualities were essential due to my daughter's medical condition at the time. As Melanie was a very premature baby, she was very prone to breathing problems and respiratory infections. She was hospitalized on two occasions before the age of one. Before the age of two, it was recommended that she be exposed to other children, particularly at daycares, as infrequently as possible. After the critical period passed, her specialist pediatrician highly recommended that any caregiver must be responsible, mature and capable of handling a possible emergency.

My husband and I were completely confident in Katherine's abilities. Melanie had only two caregivers (including Katherine), before she went to school full-time and both were selected with great care.

Melanie benefitted a great deal from Katherine's care. She developed important social skills and in fact remains best friends with Emily Benton, a girl she met at Katherine's daycare. Four of the daycare kids also went to dance classes together. So, the social value of Katherine's daycare continues to be meaningful in my daughter's life.

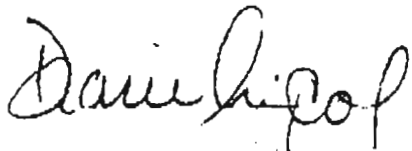
On a practical level, the daycare was first-rate: clean, organized with plenty of toys and other activities. Katherine put a great deal of effort into nutritious meal preparation. She was always dressed and ready to work with meal preparation under way at 7 a.m. or earlier. A fenced outdoor play area with suitable play structures was provided. There were no incidents that caused me to worry about my daughter's safety. Due to the location of the house near the intersection of two busy roads, close supervision was not only required, but given.

It was clear to me that Katherine took her job seriously and organized her life and her home around her caregiving responsibilities.

Naturally, I had a regular opportunity to observe Katherine and the children in her care. Any suggestion that she is not a caring, committed caregiver and mother is absolutely ludicrous.

From the time I have known Katherine as one of her clients, she has shown the utmost commitment to the the social, physical and educational needs of her own children and the children in her care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane Nicol". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the left of the printed name.

Diane Nicol

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