



1155 N. 82nd Street, Seattle, WA 98103

Tel: 206.628.0890

Fax: 206.233.1919

lisa@reedfamilylaw.com

www.reedfamilylaw.com

April 7, 2010

Re: Colleen Holbrook

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a family law attorney in Seattle, Washington. As part of my family law practice, some of my cases are litigated cases, some are cooperative, and a few are collaborative law cases.

I have known Colleen Holbrook for approximately two years. I initially met Colleen when I joined the Downtown Collaborative POD in approximately April 2008. Since that time, Colleen has worked in different capacities directly with two of my dissolution clients. Additionally, I have occasionally sought information and advice from Colleen when clients request information from me such as a reading list for how parents can most effectively discuss the dissolution process with their children. Colleen has been very helpful and willing to promptly provide the information that I have requested.

Regarding the two cases that Colleen and I have worked together on, one was a very difficult litigated case which involved very serious domestic violence concerns. Colleen was the therapist for my client's children, who had both witnessed and been the victims of domestic violence. Both my client and I found Colleen to be professional, compassionate, and excellent in working with the two children. The case required Colleen to prepare a declaration for the litigation process, and to speak with the parenting evaluator. Colleen was able to skillfully provide the necessary information without compromising the integrity of the children's therapeutic relationship with her.

In the other dissolution case that Colleen and I worked together on, Colleen mediated the parenting issues with my client and her husband without attorneys present. The parties worked on the parenting issues over several sessions with Colleen both jointly and individually. The case involved difficult and very sensitive issues, which both my client and reportedly her husband felt that



Colleen managed very respectfully and delicately while still facing them head on. The feedback that I received from my client regarding Colleen was very positive. She felt that her concerns regarding her husband's issues related to the child were addressed by Colleen and resolved very professionally without making her husband feel minimized or disrespected as a parent or a person. In addition to resolving the issue of the child's schedule and the concerns that my client had about her spouse, Colleen worked with the parties to coach them on ways to minimize the impact of the separation on their child and to reduce conflict between the parties. The parties were able to resolve the parenting issues by agreement in a manner in which both parents felt respected as parents, and the child's interests were protected.

I will happily refer clients to Colleen in the future, since the feedback I have received from past clients who have worked with her has been very positive. Also, I have found Colleen to be a good listener and to have a nice sense of humor when appropriate, which can be welcome in dissolution cases where the issues that are dealt with can at times be rather depressing. In addition to Colleen working directly with clients, I feel fortunate to have her as a resource when my clients or I need information regarding their children or child development.

Very Truly Yours,

Lisa S. Reed