SEVEN YEARS OF SILENCE. DESTROYED EVIDENCE. WHO CARES???

Inside Beaufort County, North Carolina Courthouse: A Father's Fight for His Son, Reported Admissions About Child Sexual Abuse Evidence, and Questions for Government Officials.

JUSTICE WITHOUT LIMITS • JWL NEWS
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BEAUFORT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA — Samuel Justin Foster has spent months fighting for meaningful contact with his young son. According to Foster, he sought to protect his child, passed the drug tests administered to him, complied with a psychological evaluation, and has custody of an older child. Yet restrictions on his relationship with his younger son remain a central part of the dispute.

The circumstances took a disturbing turn on July 22, 2026, when three people at the Beaufort County Courthouse say they engaged in a conversation with Janet Windley—the Department of Social Services chosen child custody placement—discuss evidence of historical child sexual abuse that she retained and later destroyed. The witnesses are Jessica Respess Saxton, Jessica Amber Jones, and Derrick Wayne Kirk. They testified on October 21, 2026, under penalty of perjury that their account of Windley's statements is true and accurate. This report treats that testimony as firsthand evidence of the conversation.

SEVEN YEARS

According to the witnesses' account of Windley's statements, evidence related to alleged sexual abuse was retained by her for approximately seven years and subsequently destroyed.

According to the witnesses, Windley spoke about allegations involving three girls referred to by name in the testimony. There is a fine line between public awareness and protection of victims, so we will refrain from mentioning 2 of the 3 victims in this publication. The witnesses recounted Windley saying she had possessed evidence connected to the allegations, retained it for approximately seven years

after a divorce, and ultimately destroyed it. Their account also describes a failure to report suspected abuse during the intervening years.

The witnesses named Ronald Kidwell, believed to be the father of North Carolina State Representative Keith Kidwell, as the alleged perpetrator. This identification came directly from Janet Windley, who named the individual as the alleged perpetrator during the conversation witnessed by three individuals. Windley's identification constitutes a firsthand reported disclosure, not a judicial finding of criminal guilt.

THE PREDICAMENT: If Windley's statements were truthful, the investigation must determine whether she knowingly concealed suspected child sexual abuse, destroyed material evidence, and potentially obstructed justice. If her statements were false, then a woman entrusted with the care of a vulnerable child reportedly fabricated an account involving child sexual abuse and the deliberate destruction of evidence. That possibility raises its own serious concerns about her credibility, judgment, and suitability as a caregiver.

A misunderstanding or inaccurate recollection must also be considered, but it does not eliminate the need to investigate the sworn accounts. Either way, Beaufort County DSS cannot responsibly disregard this testimony and continue treating the placement as unquestionably safe. This is no longer simply a dispute over parental custody. It is a documented request for accountability involving sworn witnesses, serious allegations concerning child sexual abuse, and the responsibility of government officials to ensure that children placed under their authority are genuinely protected.

THE ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARD

Child protection decisions must be supported by accurate representations, a lawful process, and a documented assessment of the child's safety—not simply an agency label of "safe placement."

Immediately after the courthouse conversation on July 22, Foster participated in a recorded telephone call with Saxton, Jones, and Kirk in which they described what Windley had just said. In that recording, Foster expressed alarm that the person being discussed was the caregiver for his son. The recording is contemporaneous evidence of the witnesses' account.

BEAUFORT COUNTY NC | DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DSS ATTORNEY MATTHEW JACKSON: A GROWING PATTERN OF ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PARENTS AND CONTESTED CHILD REMOVALS

The concerns surrounding DSS attorney Matthew Jackson extend beyond the case of Samuel Justin Foster. Justice Without Limits has received reports from multiple parents raising serious concerns about Jackson's handling of child welfare proceedings, including allegations of insufficient evidence,

contested removals of children from their families, and aggressive litigation positions that parents believe have undermined their fundamental rights.

These families describe experiences that raise concerns about whether the child welfare system is operating as a mechanism of protection or, in most cases, an adversarial process in which parents must fight to overcome allegations they maintain are unsupported. The recurring allegations demand an independent examination of Jackson's conduct, the conduct of the social workers, the evidence used to justify family separations, and the judicial oversight of DSS proceedings.



Matthew Jackson, attorney for Beaufort County DSS, leaving the Beaufort County Courthouse on October 21, 2026.

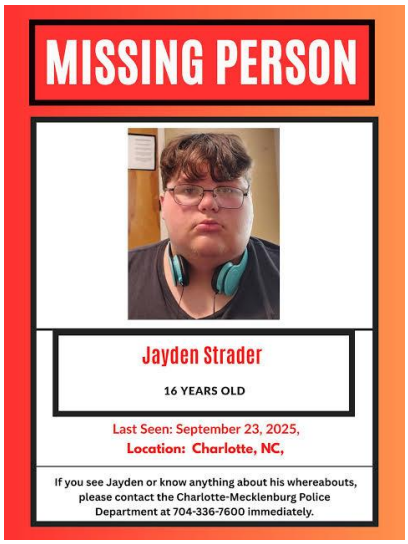
In Foster's case, Jackson reportedly continued defending the agency's position after sworn witness accounts concerning Janet Windley's statements about historical child sexual abuse and destroyed evidence were raised. Observers also report that Windley's credibility came under scrutiny during courtroom testimony, including questioning concerning her alleged criminal history.

Yet Foster's separation from his younger son remains unresolved.

MISSING CHILD

A separate concern: Jayden Strader

Jessica Amber Jones has described another alarming experience with the Beaufort County child welfare system. ***She reports that her son, Jayden Strader, was listed as missing beginning September 23, 2025***, while she understood him to be under government responsibility. She says he had not gone missing during roughly fifteen years in her care before DSS became involved.



Jones has also raised concerns about Social Security benefits reportedly being received during the period when his whereabouts were unknown. The precise legal custody arrangement, missing-person status, agency actions, and beneficiary records must be established from official documents. Jayden turned eighteen on October 15, 2026; that milestone does not eliminate the importance of accounting for agency actions during the preceding period.

The Foster and Strader matters should not be conflated. They involve separate families and separate records. Together they underscore the

need for child welfare agencies to maintain clear lines of responsibility when their decisions control where children live and how their safety is monitored.

THE GOVERNING SAFEGUARDS: North Carolina General Statutes § 7B-301 establishes duties to report suspected abuse, neglect, or dependency when its statutory elements are met. Whether a historical event triggered that duty depends on the facts and law applicable at the time. Section 7B-903 governs juvenile dispositional alternatives and relevant safety findings. North Carolina Evidence Rules 607–609 address witness credibility and methods of impeachment.

The Supreme Court's decision in Troxel v. Granville, 530 U.S. 57 (2000), recognizes the fundamental liberty interest of parents in the care, custody, and control of their children. That protection does not prohibit lawful intervention to protect a child. It does require government decisions affecting families to remain subject to law and evidence.

WHAT AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW SHOULD ESTABLISH: A meaningful review should assemble the placement assessments for Foster's son, relevant court orders and hearing transcripts, sworn testimony concerning the July 22 conversation, any evidence tied to the historical abuse allegations, and the chronology of what DSS and its counsel knew. It should evaluate the actual clinical and testing record concerning Foster and whether new information prompted reconsideration of the placement.

In Jayden's matter, official records should establish the timing and nature of the reported disappearance, each agency's legal responsibilities, the steps taken to locate him, and the administration of any benefits while he was missing. These inquiries should protect the privacy of the then minors and potential victims and route evidence of possible criminal offenses to appropriate investigators.

The agencies and individuals named in this report should be offered an opportunity to respond to the specific assertions. Their responses, along with authenticated records, belong in the public account to the extent lawful disclosure permits.

GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY ENDS WERE OUR RIGHTS BEGIN

THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLE: PARENTAL RIGHTS ARE FUNDAMENTAL — GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY IS NOT ABSOLUTE

The government does not own our children. Parents do not surrender their constitutional rights simply because the Department of Social Services becomes involved in their lives. ***The United States Constitution establishes limits on government power, including the authority exercised by child protective services, government attorneys, and the judiciary.*** The Fourteenth Amendment prohibits states from depriving individuals of liberty without due process of law. The United States Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized that parents possess a fundamental liberty interest in the care, custody, and control of their children.

In *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57 (2000), the Supreme Court reaffirmed that parental decision-making is entitled to constitutional protection. In *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745 (1982), the Court recognized the ***extraordinary consequences*** of permanently terminating parental rights and required proof by clear and convincing evidence. These decisions establish a principle that Beaufort County officials cannot disregard: Government intervention in the parent-child relationship must be justified by lawful grounds, supported by appropriate evidence, and accompanied by the process constitutionally required.

In Samuel Justin Foster's case, the government has continued restricting his relationship with his young son while serious concerns have emerged concerning the suitability of the child's placement. Three witnesses have testified under penalty of perjury about statements they personally heard Janet Windley make concerning child sexual abuse allegations and the destruction of related evidence. Those sworn accounts deserve meaningful consideration in assessing the child's safety. ***The state cannot responsibly demand extensive scrutiny of a father's fitness while failing to subject its own placement decisions to appropriate examination.*** Nor may a government attorney substitute an unsupported characterization of a parent for evidence establishing a legally sufficient basis to restrict parental rights.

The burden of justifying government interference rests on the legal standards governing the proceeding. It cannot be shifted onto parents merely by presuming that DSS is correct.

Public officials possess only the authority granted to them by law. Their positions do not place them above the Constitution, shield their representations from scrutiny, or eliminate their responsibility to protect the children affected by their decisions. Child protection, at times, is a legitimate and necessary government function. But protecting children and respecting constitutional rights are not competing obligations. ***A properly functioning child welfare system must accomplish both.***

The Constitution does not cease operating because social services is involved. Due process does not become optional when DSS files a petition. And parental rights do not disappear because a government attorney argues that they should be restricted. The people of North Carolina have every right to demand that their government justify its decisions **with evidence, follow the law, and correct mistakes that place children or families at risk.**

JWL / KEY UNDERSTANDING

GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY IS DELEGATED BY LAW.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / ACTION GUIDE

REPORT JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT

Situations like those described above demand scrutiny not only of DSS and its attorneys, but also of the judges entrusted with upholding the law.

If you have witnessed judicial misconduct, violations of due process, and/or the disregard of material evidence, **report your experience.** Help us document potential patterns of misconduct and bring evidence-supported concerns to the appropriate oversight authorities.

REPORT JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT: www.JusticeWithoutLimits.org

THE FINAL WORD: CHILD PROTECTION WITHOUT ACCOUNTABILITY IS NOT PROTECTION

The strongest weapon against government misconduct is truth. Truth requires evidence. Evidence demands examination. And justice requires public officials who are willing to uphold the law, even when doing so exposes failures within their own institutions. The government cannot claim to protect children while disregarding credible evidence that calls its own decisions into question. It cannot demand accountability from parents while placing its attorneys, agencies, and judges beyond meaningful scrutiny.

The families of Beaufort County, and all other 3,142 United States counties, deserve more than promises of protection. They deserve lawful decisions supported by evidence, meaningful due process, and accountability when public officials fail to fulfill their responsibilities. The children deserve something even greater: to be genuinely safe, to be heard, and to grow up free from preventable harm by state agents.

Justice Without Limits (JWL) is an independent, faith-driven Isaiah 61 ministry dedicated to proclaiming liberty to the captives, defending the vulnerable, and confronting systemic injustice. Through investigative journalism, public education, advocacy, and community outreach, we work to expose wrongdoing, promote government accountability, protect children and families, and restore hope to those affected by injustice.

To learn more about our mission, get involved, and help us continue the fight for justice, visit: www.JusticeWithoutLimits.org.