Jeff Strobel 2 Oak Hill Lane #209 Nashua, NH 03062

March 7, 1997

Dear Gail:

This letter is my attempt to resolve the issues that have been raised recently either on the phone or in notes.

First, this past Sunday on the way home Connor mentioned that you were going to take me to court so that you could see him more. It is not right to bring a five year old child into the middle of any dispute as he would suffer regardless of the outcome. Whether he overheard you discussing this with Howard or whether you spoke with him outright, please be very careful what is said around and to him, as I will be careful as well.

Second, I have been trying to better understand your comments about paying child support, taxes and the possibility of custody changes and in doing so always trying to keep Connor's best interest my top priority. I do not see anyone winning in a custody battle. The thousands of dollars (probably between \$10,000-\$20,000 for each of us) spent on legal fees would be of greater benefit to Connor if they were invested for his education instead. He would sense the tension and pressure and I fear the happy, loving child we know would become moody and sad and cause long term emotional problems he neither needs nor deserves.

If I accurately heard and read your comments about child support, you feel it is not equitable that I get to deduct Connor while you get no tax relief even though you are paying child support.

I would like to propose the following – that we keep the current custody arrangement and that you no longer are obliged to pay child support. First and foremost we do not disrupt Connor's routine and development. While we would both love to be able to spend more time with him, his needs need to come before ours. As for the child support, this more than solves the tax issue you raised. It also gives you total discretion to the use of the funds you had been paying in child support, whether it's to invest for Connor or to meet another need depending on the situation.

Putting the money issues aside, I think we can both agree that Connor has been doing quite well. He's a happy, smart, loving child who has many friends, enjoys school and other activities (swimming, using the computer, etc.) and who does not lack attention or love.

Please let me know what you think. If this proposal is acceptable to you I can draft up an agreement and we can proceed.

Sincerely,

Jeff Strobel

## Gail:

This note is just to catch up on a few things.

As I mentioned in the message I left, Bonnie's vacation is the last week of July and first week of
August. I don't think there is a problem with weekends but if there is we can work it out. I don't have
a problem with Connor going to Seattle the third week of July but would ask that you pay for Bonnie
for that week if you choose to go.

2. In looking ahead at the weekend schedule I noticed that I have Connor on mother's day weekend. If you would like to switch I can't do the prior weekend but could the following weekend (May 16 & 17). The only thing that I would ask is that we simply flip those weeks as opposed to adjusting the schedule as we have plans on June 6 & 7. The schedule would look like this

Week	With
4/18	You
4/25	You
5/2	You
5/9	You
5/16	Me
5/23	You
5/30	You
6/6	Me

- Connor's been wanting to play soccer this spring. All of the local leagues for his age group are on Saturday mornings. If you could check into what's available in your area I know he would appreciate it
- I've begun the process of setting up a trust for Connor with my mother as the administrator. As per our divorce agreement, let me know if this is acceptable.
- 3. It occurred to me that I never gave you a copy of the document I drafted outlining the modified child support agreement we agreed to last year (March, 1997). It simply stated that rather than paying child support to the custodial parent the non-custodial parent shall instead save the money for Connor's education (college and similar). As I cannot locate that paper we could use this note as the written version of the agreement.

Please let me know if you have any questions about any of this.