

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
26CV010517-590

Abier Eliraqy and Osama Dahroug,
Plaintiffs,

v.

Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed Dahroug;
Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed
Ibrahim; John Doe; and Jane Doe,
Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION**

TO: Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed and Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed Ibrahim:

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the District Court Division of the General Court of Justice, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: a claim for permanent child custody and related relief concerning the minor child of the parties.

You are required to make a defense to such pleading no later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of this Notice of Service of Process by Publication, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 14th day of April, 2026.

Amro Elsayed, Esq.
The Law Office of Amro Elsayed, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
NC Bar No.: 57292
1540 Westbrook Plaza Dr., Suite C
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
(336) 776-0363
amro@elsayedlawoffice.com

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

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Defendants

**VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR
CHILD CUSTODY AND MOTION
TO SEAL THE RECORD**

Plaintiffs, by and through undersigned counsel, complaining of the Defendants, allege the following:

1. This is an action for custody of the Minor Child pursuant to the North Carolina Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act ("UCCJEA"), N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 50A-101 et seq. This Court has jurisdiction to make judicial determinations concerning the custody and care of the Minor Child pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 50A-201 and 50A-204.

2. Plaintiff Abier Eliraqy is an adult resident of Rockingham County, North Carolina.

3. Plaintiff Osama Dahroug is an adult resident of Rockingham County, North Carolina.

4. The minor child who is the subject of this action, Adam Dahroug ("Adam"), is a foundling child whose birth was estimated to be on or about August 19, 2011, in Egypt. Adam's biological parents are unknown and were never identified.

5. Plaintiffs have not participated as a party, witness, or in any other capacity in any other litigation concerning the custody of the Minor Child in this or any other state. To the best of Plaintiff's knowledge, information, and belief, no court of any other

state or foreign jurisdiction has assumed jurisdiction over the custody of the Minor Child pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 50A-201, or substantially in conformity with the UCCJEA.

6. Plaintiffs and the Minor Child are present within North Carolina and have significant connections with this State. Substantial evidence is available within North Carolina concerning the Minor Child's care, protection, education, and personal relationships. Therefore, the best interests of the Minor Child would be served by this Court assuming jurisdiction pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 50A-201(a)(2).

7. Defendant Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed Dahroug is an individual whose name appears as a parent on Adam's Egyptian birth certificate, despite having no biological or parental relationship to the child. See Exhibit A.

8. Defendant Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed Ibrahim is an individual whose name appears as a parent on Adam's Egyptian birth certificate, despite having no biological or parental relationship to the child. See Exhibit A.

9. Defendants John Doe and Jane Doe represent Adam's unknown biological parents, whose identities and whereabouts are unknown.

10. No Defendant has ever exercised custody, care, supervision, or parental responsibility over Adam.

11. When Adam was approximately eleven (11) months old, Plaintiffs were approved by the Egyptian government's foster care system to foster and care for him.

12. From that time forward, Adam has continuously resided with Plaintiffs and has never lived with any other caregiver. Plaintiffs have provided Adam with food, shelter, clothing, medical care, emotional support, education, and parental guidance for more than fourteen (14) years.

13. Plaintiff Abier Eliraqy was previously diagnosed with cancer and underwent surgical removal of her womb, rendering her infertile.

14. Plaintiffs have no biological children and have always treated Adam as their child.

15. No Defendant has contacted Adam, attempted to assert parental rights, or provided financial or emotional support.

16. Plaintiffs have functioned as Adam's only parents in every practical and emotional sense since infancy.

17. Plaintiffs were legally prohibited from adopting Adam in Egypt because Egyptian law does not permit adoption, even in cases involving foundling children.

18. The Egyptian government required Plaintiffs to undergo repeated investigations, supervision, and monitoring as a condition of allowing Adam to remain in their care.

19. Plaintiffs fully complied with all governmental requirements and were continuously approved to care for Adam.

20. As a foundling child in Egypt, Adam was legally considered a second-class citizen, subject to systemic discrimination.

21. Adam's legal status in Egypt deprived him of fundamental rights, including, but not limited to: eligibility for government employment; the ability to represent the government; access to numerous educational, professional, and social opportunities; and Membership in many cultural, social, and professional organizations.

22. On August 24, 2011, the Egyptian government issued Adam a birth certificate listing fabricated parental names, as his true parentage was unknown. See Exhibit A.

23. The individuals listed on the birth certificate—Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed Dahroug and Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed Ibrahim—are not Adam's biological parents.

24. These individuals have never met Adam, never provided care or support, and have no relationship with him.

25. Their inclusion on the birth certificate was an administrative action taken by the Egyptian government and does not reflect actual parentage.



26. In July 2023, Plaintiffs relocated to the United States with Adam.

27. Since July 2023, Adam has continuously resided with Plaintiffs in Rockingham County, North Carolina.

28. Plaintiffs currently provide Adam with a safe, stable, and nurturing home environment.

29. Plaintiffs are fit and proper persons to have the care, custody, and control of the Minor Child. Plaintiff has a safe and comfortable home and possesses the time, resources, and ability to provide for the Minor Child's needs.

30. Pursuant to the information required in NC Gen. Stat. §50A-209, during the past five years, the minor child has lived with:

PERIOD	ADDRESS	PERSON(S) LIVED WITH	PRESENT ADDRESS
7/2023- Present		Abier Eliraqy & Osama Dahroug	
7/2012 - 7/2023	Cairo, Egypt	Abier Eliraqy & Osama Dahroug	

31. Granting custody to Plaintiffs is necessary to allow them to make legally recognized decisions regarding Adam's care and welfare.

32. Granting custody will also allow Adam to pursue Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) under federal law, which is essential to his ability to remain lawfully in the United States.

33. It is not in Adam's best interests to return to Egypt, where he would face discrimination, lack of parental protection, and limited legal rights as a foundling child.

34. It is in the Minor Child's best interests to remain in the United States in Plaintiff's custody and not to be removed to Egypt, where her neglectful parents will continue to fail to care for her. Thus, it is in the Minor Child's best interests to remain in the United States and petition USCIS for SIJS.

35. If this Court places the Minor Child in Plaintiff's custody, she will meet SIJS eligibility requirements. Specifically: (1) reunification with one or both parents is not viable due to a history of abandonment and neglect; and (2) it is not in the Minor Child's best interests to return to Egypt due to the neglect and abandonment experienced there and the lack of support since arriving in the United States.

**CLAIM FOR RELIEF
CUSTODY**

36. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference Paragraphs 1 through 40 as if fully set forth herein.

37. Plaintiffs are Adam's only caregivers and parental figures.

38. Adam has a strong emotional bond with Plaintiffs and relies on them for stability and guidance.

39. Plaintiffs provide a permanent, safe, and loving home.

40. Defendants are unknown, unavailable, unfit, or have abandoned the child.

41. An award of sole legal and physical custody to Plaintiffs is in Adam's best interests, health, safety, and welfare.

42. Plaintiffs seek sole legal and physical custody of the minor child, Adam Dahroug.

43. Plaintiffs seek authority to make all decisions related to Adam's education, medical care, mental health, and general welfare.

MOTION TO SEAL THE RECORD

44. North Carolina recognizes a common-law presumption of public access to court records. However, that presumption may be overcome where countervailing interests heavily outweigh the public interest in access. *Virmani v. Presbyterian Health Servs. Corp.*, 350 N.C. 449 (1999).

45. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 1-72.1, a court may seal court records upon a finding of good cause. In determining whether sealing is appropriate, the Court must: Provide public notice and an opportunity to be heard; Consider less restrictive alternatives; and make written findings supporting sealing.

46. The minor child at issue is a foundling whose biological parents are unknown. The record contains information regarding: The child's unknown parentage; Government-assigned parental identities; Immigration-related status and proceedings; Sensitive foster-care documentation from a foreign government; and Allegations of abandonment and neglect.

47. Disclosure of this information would: Subject the child to stigma and discrimination; Expose deeply personal circumstances to public scrutiny; Potentially compromise the child's immigration proceedings; and Create long-term reputational harm.

48. The minor child has a compelling privacy interest that outweighs the public's interest in access to these specific records.

49. The child is particularly vulnerable due to his status as a minor and as a foundling.

50. No less restrictive alternative adequately protects the child's privacy because the sensitive information is woven throughout the pleadings and filings.

51. Redaction alone would not sufficiently safeguard the child's identity or circumstances.

52. Sealing the record is narrowly tailored to protect the minor child's compelling privacy interests.

53. Courts routinely afford heightened protection to cases involving minor children.

54. The circumstances of this case are exceptional due to the child's foundling status and the international custody and immigration components involved.

55. Good cause exists under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 1-72.1 to seal the record in its entirety.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, on their own behalf and on behalf of the Minor Child, respectfully prays the Court as follows:

1. That Plaintiff's Verified Complaint for Custody and the sworn factual allegations taken as an affidavit upon which the Court may base all of its orders in this case;
2. That the Court enter an Order granting Plaintiffs sole physical and legal care, custody, and control of the Minor Child;

3. That the Court make the findings of fact as set forth in Plaintiffs' Complaint for SIJS Findings to enable the Minor Child to petition USCIS for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status; and
4. That the Court enter an Order sealing the court record in this matter pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 1-72.1;
5. That the Court direct the Clerk of Court to restrict public access to all filings in this case;
6. That the Court Permit access only to the Court, counsel of record, and other persons authorized by Court order;
7. That Plaintiff be granted such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

This the **20th** day of **February**, 20**26**.



Amro Elsayed, Esq.
The Law Office of Amro Elsayed, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
NC Bar No.: 57292
1540 Westbrook Plaza Dr. Suite C
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
(336) 776-0363
amro@elsayedlawoffice.com

EXHIBIT

A

Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Interior
CSO



جمهورية مصر العربية
وزارة الداخلية
قطاع الأحوال المدنية



شهادة ميلاد

BIRTH CERTIFICATE

CHILD DATA

NAME : ADAM

NATIONAL ID : 31108190101537

NATIONALITY : EGYPT

PLACE OF BIRTH : CAIRO

DATE OF BIRTH : 19/08/2011

RELIGION : MUSLIM

SEX : MALE

بيانات المولود

الاسم : آدم

الرقم القومي : ٣١١٠٨١٩٠١٠١٥٣٧

الجنسية : مصر

محل الميلاد : القاهرة

تاريخ الميلاد : ٢٠١١/٠٨/١٩

الديانة : مسلم

النوع : ذكر

FATHER DATA

NAME : SOBHY FARES KOTB ELSAYED DAHROUG

NATIONALITY : EGYPT

RELIGION : MUSLIM

بيانات الاب

الاسم : صبحى فارس قطب السيد دحروج

الجنسية : مصر

الديانة : مسلم

MOTHER DATA

NAME : MERVAT AHMED ABDELMEGEED IBRAHIM

NATIONALITY : EGYPT

RELIGION : MUSLIM

بيانات الام

الاسم : مرفت احمد عبدالمجيد ابراهيم

الجنسية : مصر

الديانة : مسلمة

ENTRY NO. : 2686

ENTRY DATE : 24/08/2011

ISSUANCE DATE : 27/05/2023

رقم القيد : ٢٦٨٦

تاريخ القيد : ٢٠١١/٠٨/٢٤

تاريخ الاصدار : ٢٠٢٣/٠٥/٢٧



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

Abier Eliraqy and Osama Dahroug,

Plaintiffs

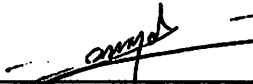
v.

Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed Dahroug;
Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed Ibrahim;
John Doe; and Jane Doe,

Defendants


VERIFICATION

Osama Dahroug, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action, that he has read the foregoing Complaint for Child Custody and knows the contents thereof, that the same is true of his own knowledge, except as to matters stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, he believes the same to be true.



(Sign in the presence of a Notary Public)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 13 day of Feb 2025 2026



Notary Public

Maria M. Ramirez-Ibarra
(Printed Name of Notary Public)



My Commission Expires: 06105130

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG

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VERIFICATION

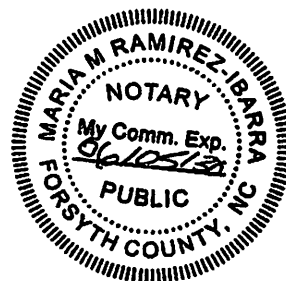
Abier Eliraqy, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action, that she has read the foregoing Complaint for Child Custody and knows the contents thereof, that the same is true of her own knowledge, except as to matters stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, she believes the same to be true.

Abier Eliraqy
(Sign in the presence of a Notary Public)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 13th day of Feb 2025

Maria M. Ramirez-Ibarra
Notary Public

Maria M. Ramirez-Ibarra
(Printed Name of Notary Public)



My Commission Expires: 06/05/30

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

File No. 26CV010517-590

MECKLENBURG County

In The General Court Of Justice
[X] District [] Superior Court Division

Name Of Plaintiff: Abier Eliraqy and Osama Dahroug
Address: 204 W Washington Exd
City, State, Zip: Mayodan NC 27027

CIVIL SUMMONS
[] ALIAS AND PLURIES SUMMONS (ASSESS FEE)

G.S. 1A-1, Rules 3 and 4

VERSUS
Name Of Defendant(s): Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed Dahroug, John Doe, Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed Ibrahim, Jane Doe

Date Original Summons Issued
Date(s) Subsequent Summons(es) Issued

To Each Of The Defendant(s) Named Below:

Name And Address Of Defendant 1: Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed Dahroug / John Doe, Unknown Address

Name And Address Of Defendant 2: Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed Ibrahim / Jane Doe, Unknown Address



IMPORTANT! You have been sued! These papers are legal documents, DO NOT throw these papers out! You have to respond within 30 days. You may want to talk with a lawyer about your case as soon as possible, and, if needed, speak with someone who reads English and can translate these papers!
¡IMPORTANTE! ¡Se ha entablado un proceso civil en su contra! Estos papeles son documentos legales. ¡NO TIRE estos papeles! Tiene que contestar a más tardar en 30 días. ¡Puede querer consultar con un abogado lo antes posible acerca de su caso y, de ser necesario, hablar con alguien que lea inglés y que pueda traducir estos documentos!

A Civil Action Has Been Commenced Against You!

You are notified to appear and answer the complaint of the plaintiff as follows:

- 1. Serve a copy of your written answer to the complaint upon the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney within thirty (30) days after you have been served. You may serve your answer by delivering a copy to the plaintiff or by mailing it to the plaintiff's last known address, and
2. File the original of the written answer with the Clerk of Superior Court of the county named above.

If you fail to answer the complaint, the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Name And Address Of Plaintiff's Attorney (if none, Address Of Plaintiff): Amro Elsayed, Esq., 1540 Westbrook Plaza Drive, Suite C, Winston-Salem NC 27103

Date Issued: 2/20/2026 4:21:29 pm [] AM [] PM
Signature: /s/ Katherine Potts
[X] Deputy CSC [] Assistant CSC [] Clerk Of Superior Court

[] ENDORSEMENT (ASSESS FEE)
This Summons was originally issued on the date indicated above and returned not served. At the request of the plaintiff, the time within which this Summons must be served is extended sixty (60) days.

Date Of Endorsement
Time: [] AM [] PM
Signature
[] Deputy CSC [] Assistant CSC [] Clerk Of Superior Court

NOTE TO PARTIES: Many counties have MANDATORY ARBITRATION programs in which most cases where the amount in controversy is \$25,000 or less are heard by an arbitrator before a trial. The parties will be notified if this case is assigned for mandatory arbitration, and, if so, what procedure is to be followed.

(Over)

RETURN OF SERVICE

I certify that this Summons and a copy of the complaint were received and served as follows:

DEFENDANT 1

<i>Date Served</i>	<i>Time Served</i> <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	<i>Name Of Defendant</i>
--------------------	---	--------------------------

- By delivering to the defendant named above a copy of the summons and complaint.
- By leaving a copy of the summons and complaint at the dwelling house or usual place of abode of the defendant named above with a person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein.
- As the defendant is a corporation, service was effected by delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to the person named below.

Name And Address Of Person With Whom Copies Left (if corporation, give title of person copies left with)

<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptance of service. Summons and complaint received by: <input type="checkbox"/> Defendant 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <small>(type or print name)</small>	<i>Date Accepted</i>	<i>Signature</i>

Other manner of service *(specify)*

Defendant WAS NOT served for the following reason:

DEFENDANT 2

<i>Date Served</i>	<i>Time Served</i> <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	<i>Name Of Defendant</i>
--------------------	---	--------------------------

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<input type="checkbox"/> Acceptance of service. Summons and complaint received by: <input type="checkbox"/> Defendant 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <small>(type or print name)</small>	<i>Date Accepted</i>	<i>Signature</i>

Other manner of service *(specify)*

Defendant WAS NOT served for the following reason:

<i>Service Fee Paid</i> \$	<i>Signature Of Deputy Sheriff Making Return</i>
-------------------------------	--

<i>Date Received</i>	<i>Name Of Sheriff (type or print)</i>
----------------------	--

<i>Date Of Return</i>	<i>County Of Sheriff</i>
-----------------------	--------------------------

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

File No. 26CV010517-590

MECKLENBURG County

In The General Court Of Justice
[X] District [] Superior Court Division

Name Of Plaintiff: Abier Eliraqy and Osama Dahroug
Address: 204 W Washington Exd
City, State, Zip: Mayodan NC 27027
Name Of Defendant(s): Sobhy Fares Kotb Elsayed Dahroug, John Doe, Mervat Ahmed Abdelmegeed Ibrahim, Jane Doe

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[] ALIAS AND PLURIES SUMMONS (ASSESS FEE)
G.S. 1A-1, Rules 3 and 4
Date Original Summons Issued
Date(s) Subsequent Summons(es) Issued

To Each Of The Defendant(s) Named Below:

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<input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>(type or print name)</i>		

Other manner of service *(specify)*

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