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**RELEASED IN
FULL**

From: Cantrell, Paul M
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2009 11:28 AM
To: Driskel, Scott M; Rosalik, Linda L
Cc: Guimond, Heather X; Teklu, Tsion
Subject: FW: Consular Section needs to see adoption cases BEFORE the interview date and BEFORE the court date, when possible.

FYI

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Barbara Nielsen, Senior Reviewer

From: Cantrell, Paul M
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2009 11:27 AM
To: 'info@betterfutureadoption.org'; 'agitu@betterfutureadoption.org'
Subject: Consular Section needs to see adoption cases BEFORE the interview date and BEFORE the court date, when possible.

Dear Agitu Wedajo:

In reviewing adoption cases brought to our Consular Section by Better Futures, my consular staff and I have concluded that we need to get a more clear understanding about the cases your agency brings to us. Ideally, that needs to occur early in the process.

For future adoption cases brought to our Consular Section by Better Futures, we would like to review the cases in **advance of the interview date and before the adoptive parents travel to Ethiopia**. We need to review all of Better Futures' cases in advance of the interview and ideally before the court date. My intention is not to cause Better Futures undue hardship, but rather to gain the level of confidence in cases that we need to be able to approve cases at the window. We do not want to have to delay cases at the point of interview, when the adopting parents are here and when delays are most difficult for everyone involved.

Thank you in advance for coordinating with my staff so that we have a chance to review cases before the adoptive parents are invited to travel. I look forward to your cooperation in this regard.

Regards,
Paul Cantrell
Consular Section Chief,
U.S. Embassy, Addis Ababa