

State of New York

Affidavit in Support
of I-129F Petition

County of Kings

I, David, being duly sworn, depose and say:

1. I am making this affidavit in support of the I-129F Petition for Alien Fiancée that I am filing on behalf of my fiancée, Ludmila, with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

2. I first met Ludmila in an online chat room in August, 2003. There were many people to talk with in this particular “room,” but I seemed to always gravitate to Ludmila. She told me she lived in the city of Vladivostok in Russia. As I did not know anyone personally from this country, I was very interested to talk to her about life there. We quickly became friends and met in the chat room almost every day to discuss our countries, our lives, our thoughts, and our dreams. I found myself thinking of Ludmila as a good friend in whom I could easily confide, and wanted to take our relationship to another level. However, as with any online chat room, it is hard to distinguish between reality and fantasies. I expressed these thoughts and some of my fears to Ludmila and was greatly comforted by her response that she too was scared about where this relationship was heading and whether or not I was “on the level.” We exchanged personal e-mail addresses after about one month in the chat room and this is when our relationship really started to take off.

3. We emailed very often and also exchanged many pictures. My thoughts started to wander away from just a friendship to a more loving and meaningful relationship. We exchanged phone numbers and started talking on the phone about twice a week. Ludmila’s way of living and her views and thoughts about life were so original to me in their simplicity that I found myself quoting her to many people. She helped me get through some rough times as I was becoming overly stressed at my job and with life in general. Ludmila gave me the strength I needed to quit an

unhealthy job and to sell my condo in New Jersey and move back to my family in Brooklyn, New York. As I became more and more reliant on Ludmila, I also became more and more apprehensive as to where this relationship would go, since we lived so far away from each other. I decided I would continue on this course and not let distance interfere with what my heart was telling me – that I was falling in love with Ludmila.

4. Ludmila started going to an Internet Café with Video capabilities and I purchased a Webcam so that we could both talk and see each other at the same time. Seeing her smile and laugh; watching her eyes tear-up as I told her how much she meant to me; even watching her uncomfortable body language when we would get into an occasional fight – all these things convinced me I needed to be with Ludmila and that she loved me as much as I loved her.

5. After selling my condo and moving back to Brooklyn, I started making plans to visit Ludmila in Saint Petersburg, where she was staying for awhile to visit with her sister and brother-in-law, Irina and Aleksey, and their son (Ludmila's nephew) Vlad. As my own sister, Margaret, was soon to have a baby, I wanted to wait until the baby was born before I left for my trip. Once Ludmila and I were sure I would visit, it became increasingly harder and harder for us to wait for that day. I would often fantasize about what it would feel like to finally hold Ludmila in my arms, look into her eyes, and kiss her lips. My fantasies became reality sooner than we planned: as a special surprise, my niece, Emily, decided she would come into this world a month earlier than she was supposed to. Because of this, in April 2004, one month earlier than expected, my dreams of being with Ludmila finally came true.

6. I was very scared to travel to Russia, for the first time and alone, but I was determined to be with Ludmila in the flesh to prove what my heart was already telling me. Ludmila met me in the terminal at the airport and reality was better than any dream I could have had. I finally had Ludmila in my arms and I knew that I would never let her go. I had originally booked a hotel for my 10-day stay in Saint Petersburg as I was not sure what to expect. I quickly canceled that booking and stayed at

Ludmila's apartment for the whole trip. To say that my 10 days with Ludmila was a magical experience that I will never forget is an understatement. We never left each others side for a minute and everything that I thought of Ludmila in the chat room, on e-mail, on the phone, and on video was now even more true in the flesh. I ate dinner with Irina and Aleksey and their family on two separate nights and Aleksey also took us sightseeing one afternoon. It was easy to see why Ludmila is such a loving person after I met some of her family. As great as my trip was, it was equally unbearable when it was time to leave. Ludmila and I were now sure that our lives would be as one sometime in the future, but for now we had to part, and we did so tearfully.

7. Once back in New York and without Ludmila, I realized with absolute clarity that I wanted Ludmila to be with me forever. We had taken some time apart to really think about our feelings, and that's when I had this clear realization. After about a week (which was the longest we had not spoken to each other in the past six months), we had a brief discussion about her willingness to live with me in New York. Once I knew she was willing to do this, I asked Ludmila to be my wife and she said, "Yes!" I know that we will have a wonderful life together as husband and wife. I love her so very much and she loves me just as much. We want to begin this life together as soon as possible. We want to have children so that they can share in our love as a family and we want to grow old together, never having to leave each other's side again.

David

Sworn to before me this
day of July, 2004

Notary Public