

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

1. I was born on March 22, ..., in the city of, Poland.

2. I came to the United States on November 26, 1987 (quite auspiciously, on Thanksgiving Day!) and became a United States citizen on September 13, 2000. My Certificate of Naturalization Number is, A copy of this Certificate is attached to my affidavit and made a part of my affidavit.

3. I currently reside at 2, Apt. ..., East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816, and have been living here since June of this year. Prior to that, I resided at Road, East Brunswick N.J. 08816 (I moved into that house upon my arrival in the United States). My telephone number is: 732/.....

3. I am making this affidavit in support of the petition that is being filed by Maria with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), namely INS Form I-751, Petition to Remove the Conditions on Residence.

4. I strongly believe that Maria and her first husband, Larry (whom everyone called by his nickname, "Skip," as I will call him in this affidavit), entered into their marriage in good faith. I base my belief on having known them as a couple for approximately one and one half years, from September 1997 through the spring of 1999, and, thereafter, my belief is reinforced by my continuing friendship with Maria.

5. I first met Maria and Skip in September of 1997. We met at the building I currently reside at, namely 2

....., East Brunswick, N.J. I purchased this twelve-unit building in January of 1995 and was doing maintenance work in the building when they first approached me and inquired as to whether I knew of an apartment available for rent. They explained that they had just gotten married in the previous month and had been searching for a suitable place to live. I told them that they were asking the right person, as I was the building's owner, and that a studio apartment was available beginning next month, that is, October. They were interested in seeing it, and, after I showed the apartment to them, they decided right away to take it. They commenced living together at this apartment that October (1997) and were living there through the spring of 1999. I can attest to their living together during this period of time because of the following circumstances.

6. As the owner of the building at 2, it has been, and continues to be, my practice to personally collect the rent from my tenants at the beginning of each month. This practice enables me to learn firsthand of any repair and maintenance problems, or any other tenancy problems for that matter, which they are experiencing, that I can then personally remedy or arrange to have remedied. In addition, I enjoy the personal contact with my tenants. Due to this practice of frequent interactions with my tenants, I have come to know some of them fairly well, so that what began as a business relationship has, in some cases, developed into a personal friendship. That was what happened with Skip and Maria. I am not saying we became best friends, but we did become friends. Whenever I stopped by to collect the rent, they would graciously invite me into their home for coffee and cake and, time permitting, I would accept their offer and enjoy their hospitality. Typically, I did the rent collections after I had completed my day job, meaning that it was evening when I saw them. That meant both of them were home, having completed their workday. In this way I became acquainted with two interesting people, who shared the ordinary joys and difficulties of any newlyweds.

7. The last time I saw them together was when I collected their rent in the spring of 1999. I do not recall exactly what month it was: it was either March or April. At the beginning of May of 1999, I met Maria at the parking lot outside the building and she informed me that she and Skip had been having serious problems and were no longer living together. She gave me the one-month notice that she would be vacating the apartment at the end of that month. Because the studio apartment she and Skip were vacating suited my needs more than the house I had been living in, I moved into that very same apartment in June.

8. I have remained friends with Maria; we do not have the time to meet in person very often, but we do talk on the telephone from time to time. On the other hand, I discontinued my friendship with Skip because of what I regard as the unjust and even callous way he treated Maria, particularly towards the end of their relationship, including the fact that he abandoned her. I know that she was lonely after her divorce from Skip. When I learned that she had subsequently found a nice man and, more recently, that she was getting married to this man, I was very happy for her.

Walter

Sworn to before me this
day of November, 2000

Notary Public