

Rally planned to support grandmother who lost court battle to raise her grandchildren

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Crying out for the release her granddaughters from the foster care system, Dorothy Dunning has been fighting for custody of her grandchildren for the past three years.

Though both Minnesota and Mississippi (where Dunning resides) have agreed that the Dunning and her husband, Larry Dunning, are able to support and care for the grandchildren, Hennepin County Judge Catherine Quaintance denied to

award the two girls, Princess Knox, 3, Dorothy Knox, 2, to the Dunnings. The grandchildren were placed in foster care when the girls' parents signed away their parental rights due to substance abuse issues. Dunning is the mother of the two girls father, Princeton Knox.

The Dunnings' case went to the Minnesota Supreme Court in January. Last month, the court ruled 5-2 against the Dunnings, therefore keeping the children with their foster parents, Steven and Liv Grosser. The Knox girls are African-American; the Grossers are white. The Grossers plan to permanently adopt the Knox girls.

Determined to fight, supporters of Dunning are hosting a rally on her behalf on Monday, April 22 at 300 South 6th St., downtown Minneapolis. The noon rally takes place on the 5th Street side on the plaza.