

Character Profile: Martin Perez

Demographics and Background

- You are Caleb Perez's biological father.
- You were previously in a relationship with Maria Thomas, Caleb's mother.
- You and Maria Thomas do not speak unless it is about Caleb.
- You financially do your best to support Caleb when you are employed, however, your employment has been sporadic in recent months.
- You live with your mother, Joanna Perez.
- You currently do not have legal custody of Caleb because you have a previous indicated report with DCFS of sexual abuse.
- You have court-ordered supervised visitation every other weekend.
- Your last visit with Caleb was 10 days ago. At that time, you did not observe any visible injuries on Caleb.
- You are confused as to why Caleb was in Darryl's care and not the care of his regular babysitter, Wendy Wright.

Incident Information

- You received a phone call from Darryl Hughes' mother, Patricia Hughes, advising you that Caleb had an injury to his left hand, possibly a burn.
- You are not sure how Patricia Hughes got your number as you do not know her, but you are grateful for her concern for Caleb.

- You and your mother proceeded to Maria Thomas' home where you found Caleb in the care of Darryl Hughes, Maria's current boyfriend.
- As per Darryl Hughes, Caleb was playing fireman and pulled a lamp down on himself, causing the injury to his hand.
- You are under the impression that the injury happened today.
- Maria Thomas was not home, so you and your mother brought Caleb to the E.R.

Character Development Tips

- You are very worried about Caleb and concerned about how the injury occurred.
- You find it hard to believe Caleb caused the injury to himself, though cannot imagine how it could have occurred.
- You have had a conflictual relationship with Maria but you find it difficult to believe that she would purposefully harm Caleb, as she generally appears to be a caring mother.
- Your mother, Joanna, has very negative feelings about Maria, and you believe she has a tendency to exaggerate.
- You are hesitant to provide this information to hospital staff, or your past mistakes that caused you not to have custody of Caleb, and offer as little information as possible when questioned.
- Since you are fluent in both English and Spanish, you are trying to answer the questions from the medical professionals

to the best of your knowledge. (You have limited information about the injuries.)

- You are patient but somewhat irritated with what you perceive as your mother's constant interruptions of wanting to contribute her opinions. (*Remember: you have had Child Protective Services and Law enforcement in your life in the past and would like to avoid having interactions with them again.*)

Martin Perez Simulation Module #1

- After receiving the call from Patricia, you and your mother went to the home where Caleb resides with his mother, found him in the care of Darryl and brought him to the ER.
- You have cooperated with the nurse in the ER and answered all of her questions, but your information is limited.
- You believe the burns to Caleb's hand were to have occurred today, but you are not sure.
- You only have the explanation from Darryl Hughes as to how Caleb's hand got injured.
- Per Darryl, Caleb was playing fireman, trying to climb a lamp and pulled the lamp down on himself causing the burn to his hand.
- You have no information regarding the other bruises on his back and believe his eyes are puffy from crying.
- You don't know much about Darryl Hughes, other than that he is the father of Maria's three-month-old daughter, and has been living in the house with Maria and Caleb for awhile.

Martin Perez Module #2 ER in local hospital

- The nurse has completed the intake and will introduce both the treating physician, Dr. Kramer, and the hospital social worker, Mx. Jackson.
- You focus on answering the doctor's questions and trying to keep Caleb occupied while the doctor looks at the injury.
- Your mother, Joanna, will be busy talking to the interpreter if one is provided by the hospital staff.
- Note: (Non-verbal cues) When the interpreter interjects any of the information they have received from your mother, you can fold your arms, sigh heavily and roll your eyes.
- Dr. Kramer will observe Caleb's injuries and make a statement about the concern and the need to involve Child Protective Services and Law Enforcement. (Non-verbals are encouraged here: physically shaking your head no, folding your hands across your chest.)
- Verbally you say, "I can't stand dealing with those people," or something to that effect.

Martin Perez Module #3

- Your focus is on interacting with and occupying Caleb.
- Maria, Caleb's mother and her friend Wendy arrive at the ER. (Wendy has also been Caleb's long term babysitter). After initial interactions between new characters, wait for Maria or others to engage you.
- You are not looking to engage in an argument, but do not want to ignore Maria if she speaks to you. If Maria addresses you, you might respond to any of her statements regarding what the doctor has said about the injuries with the following:
 - Your boyfriend should be watching him better.
 - This burn should have been treated days ago.
 - Well, now you got Child Protection called on you!!

Martin Perez Module #4

- Your focus is on interacting with and occupying Caleb.
- You have little to no interest in engaging with Child Protective Services or Law Enforcement.
- You keep your replies extremely short.

Notes