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To Whom It May Concern:

My daughter, Elizabeth Annibali, now 22 years old, suffered for years with exquisite light sensitivity and debilitating, excruciating daily migraine headaches. Elizabeth, her mother (a nurse), and I (a physician), searched endlessly for a solution to her difficulties. Headache treatments, including many medications, intravenous steroids, and injections into Elizabeth's scalp, provided only limited relief. We didn't know where to turn.

Elizabeth, an extremely intelligent, inquisitive person, continued to search on her own to find an answer. Ultimately, through her searching she discovered Irlen Syndrome, and she asked that we agree to her screening for Irlen Syndrome. At that point, neither her mother nor I knew anything about Irlen Syndrome. I was skeptical. However, her mother and I were open to anything that might help our daughter, and we agreed to the Irlen evaluation.

The evaluation showed that Elizabeth did indeed suffer from Irlen Syndrome. Treatment with her colored filters has made all the difference in the world to Elizabeth. Using her glasses with filters or her specially-tinted contact lenses, Elizabeth no longer suffers from extreme light sensitivity. In addition, her once daily headaches have been reduced to about 1% of their previous frequency. In short, being diagnosed and treated for Irlen Syndrome has had a profoundly positive impact on her life.

Since her diagnosis, I have referred my own patients for Irlen screening. A number of them have indeed turned out to have Irlen Syndrome, and were treated using the colored filters with marked benefits. At Amen Clinics, where I am chief psychiatrist of the DC area clinic, we perform brain scans that demonstrate positive brain changes in those treated with Irlen filters.

This little-known condition deserves to be understood by all physicians, educators, and parents. The costs of missing the diagnosis are significant. The benefits of making the diagnosis and implementing treatment are marked.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Annibali, M.D.
Chief Psychiatrist, Amen Clinic DC
Certified, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology