

**IN THE JUVENILE COURTS OF LUMPKIN, WHITE, UNION, AND  
TOWNS COUNTIES**

**STATE OF GEORGIA**

Towns County, Georgia  
Entered  
7-1-11  
Cecil Dye  
Clerk Superior Court

In Re:  
Discovery, Pre-trial Procedure, and  
Judicial Reviews in  
Deprivation and Termination Cases

Standing Order No.

**STANDING ORDER**

WHEREAS the Uniform Juvenile Court Rules allow for discovery in deprivation action only upon order of the Court, and allow for pretrial conferences in deprivation cases (Rules 7.1, 7.2, 7.5); and

WHEREAS it is the aim of the Court to expedite the resolution of cases and the achievement of permanency for the children whose cases are before the Court;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the first appearance for an adjudicatory hearing in any deprivation or termination case shall be set for a pretrial conference;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that at the pretrial conference the parties or their attorneys shall be prepared to address the following issues:

1. No later than 72 hours prior to the pretrial conference, each party shall provide to all other parties a written list of witnesses that party expects to call, including contact information for each witness. If any witness listed is to be called as an expert witness, the proponent of that witness shall so designate that witness in the list. Witnesses not identified in the pretrial order shall not be allowed to testify except for good cause shown.
2. The need for civil discovery. Any party requesting civil discovery shall appear for the pretrial conference with a written motion conforming to and containing the information required by Uniform Juvenile Court Rule 7.2.
3. The necessity of appointment of counsel or guardian ad litem for any party.
4. The necessity of requiring the mother to execute a paternity affidavit in the form provided by O.C.G.A. §19-8-26(h), or show cause before the Court if she refuses.
5. The information required to be provided to the Court pursuant to O.C.G.A. §19-9-69.

6. The simplification of the issues and the necessity or desirability of amendments to the pleadings.
7. The necessity of a court-certified interpreter.
8. Any other information or matters as may aid in the adjudication of the action.

During the pendency of any action involving deprivation or termination, the Department of Family and Children Services ("DFCS") shall serve upon all parties (through counsel if represented) the following documents within 72 hours of the receipt by DFCS of each document:

1. Any psychological evaluation of any parent, child, or other party;
2. Any substance-abuse, anger-management, parenting, or other assessment;
3. The Comprehensive Child and Family Assessment.

Should the 72-hour deadline for provision of these documents fall on a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday, or State furlough day, then the documents shall be due the next business day after the deadline. These documents are released to the parties or their attorneys solely for use in the Juvenile Court and may not be used for any other purpose or released to any other party. Upon the conclusion of the case for which the documents were generated, the documents shall be returned to DFCS or destroyed. If any party other than DFCS desires to maintain any such document beyond the conclusion of the case for which the document was generated, then that party shall make a motion before the Court for such preservation. Should any party have a legal or compelling reason that any of these documents or any portion of any of these documents should not be released as provided herein, that party shall make a motion before the Court to show cause why such release should not be made.

Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, an initial judicial review shall be conducted 60 to 90 days following the entry of a final dispositional order in deprivation cases in which custody is given to DFCS, and successive reviews at 6-month intervals (O.C.G.A. §15-11-58(k)). Any party may make a written motion at any time requesting additional judicial review hearings. All hearings between the adjudicatory hearing and any extension hearing or termination hearing are dispositional in nature, including hearings to consider return of custody to a parent and hearings to determine whether reunification services should continue to be provided.


All orders appointing counsel shall terminate 30 days after the entry of a final disposition, extension, or termination order, unless an appeal is filed. Parties requesting appointment of counsel for judicial review hearings shall present a new application for appointed counsel for each such hearing. Orders appointing counsel for a judicial review hearing shall terminate 30 days after the entry of the judicial review order for that hearing.

The CASA report in any case shall be provided to the parties or their attorneys at least 24 hours prior to the hearing for which it was produced. The CASA report shall not be provided to the Court prior to the hearing.

All proposed orders submitted by any party shall be submitted in an editable format by email or by other appropriate media.

This Order shall be filed with the Clerks of Lumpkin, White, Union, and Towns Counties and shall be available for inspection and copying by any person upon request.

SO ORDERED, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2011.



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The Hon. Gerald W. Bruce  
Judge, Juvenile Courts  
Enotah Judicial Circuit

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**STATE OF GEORGIA**

Towns County, Georgia  
Entered  
7-1-11  
Cecil Dye  
Clerk Superior Court

In Re:  
Compensation for Court-Appointed  
Attorneys


Standing Order No.

**STANDING ORDER**

As the costs of indigent defense in Juvenile Court are chargeable to the General Fund of the county in which the case is filed, the Court, having consulted with the Superior Court in accordance with O.C.G.A. §15-11-18(i), hereby establishes the following procedure for the payment of court-appointed attorneys in the Juvenile Courts of the Enotah Judicial Circuit:

1. The rate of reimbursement for time is \$50.00 per hour for each billable hour.
2. Mileage is reimbursed at the IRS rate for county employees of the county in which the case is filed; however, mileage is not paid for travel to and from court.
3. Copying expenses are reimbursed at \$0.25 per page.
4. Travel time is not reimbursed.
5. Other ordinary expenses of litigation, such as routine postage, are reimbursed, the total amount not to exceed \$25.00 without prior approval of the Court.
6. Requests for payment of fees for appointed work are made by motion with supporting affidavit and documentation. The attorney shall also provide the Court with a proposed order awarding fees.
7. Extraordinary expenses, such as expert witness fees, must be requested prior to incurring an obligation to pay such expenses. The motion for extraordinary expenses must be presented in writing and explain the nature of the request, the amount requested, and the reason that such funds are necessary.
8. This Order applies to all appointments made on or after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

SO ORDERED, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2011.

  
The Hon. Gerald W. Bruce  
Judge, Juvenile Courts  
Enotah Judicial Circuit