



American Bar Association
Center on Children and the Law

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PUBLICATIONS

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Print benefits: 12 practical, info-packed monthly print issues (192 pages), plus Index; Super-short precedent-setting case abstracts, organized by state; Interviews with experts; Up-to-the-minute series of practice-based articles; Cutting edge research; Strategies to improve your dependency court practice; Easy-to-read legal writing. **Extra online benefits:** Access to *CLP Online*; Search over 1300 court opinions - by keyword, state/federal court, case name, or date; Search over 200 articles - by subject, title, author, or key word; Get PDFs of back issues; Get bonus material not in print editions. **Subscription prices for first-time subscribers:** \$149 individual (personal check or credit card only); \$184 institutional, agency, library, law firm; \$205 international; \$50 student (student ID required)

Court Performance Measures in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases 2009

This is a free five volume, 550 page, series of publications, published by the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, produced by a collaboration among the ABA Center on Children and the Law, the National Center for State Courts, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. It provides detailed guidance about court performance measures for child abuse and neglect cases and offers a comprehensive approach to help dependency courts successfully implement a performance measurement process. It is an essential resource for juvenile/family courts, pilot tested in 12 diverse sites, and it reflects a breadth and richness of experience that will make it useful for any court hearing these cases. Designed to help courts ensure safety, permanence, and well-being of maltreated children, it will also improve and strengthen dependency court systems and cross-system supports.

The toolkit and its components may be accessed for free online or ordered with only shipping/handling charges, as print copies at <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/courttoolkit.html>

Children, Law, and Disasters: What We Have Learned from Katrina and the Hurricanes of 2005

This collaboration between the ABA and the University of Houston Law Center looks at experiences of children during the disasters and the first response to events to demonstrate how we can do a better job for children, and it acknowledges the considerable stress on systems such as juvenile justice, foster care, and education before the disasters and what needs to happen in a post-Katrina world. It stresses the opportunity to examine and engage problems that were exposed by disasters and create effective policies for children in all these important systems. It takes a long-range view about the implications of an agenda focused on children's needs and provides a much-needed tool to help develop policies and plans for the future.

\$39.95 (Catalog Number 3490002) 2009

A Judge's Guide: Making Child-Centered Decisions in Custody Cases: 2008 Second Edition

This is a comprehensive "child-focused" look at child custody proceedings and is a valuable resource for any professional engaged in child custody practice. It addresses: courtroom management techniques and considerations aimed at reducing tension in custody litigation; child/youth development related to divorce and separation; and parenting considerations affecting parent-child and parent-parent relationships. Advises on appropriate use of expert testimony in custody/visitation disputes and addresses such recurring issues as family violence, relocation, and visitation. Lists helpful publications, websites and other resources.

Available for free PDF download at: http://www.abanet.org/legalservices/probono/childcustody/judges_guide.pdf

Note: See also ABA Standards of Practice for Lawyers Representing Children in Custody Cases at: http://www.abanet.org/family/reports/standards_childcustody.pdf

Opening Doors for LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care: A Guide for Lawyers and Judges

Aims to increase legal community's awareness of LGBTQ youth in foster care and issues faced. It provides tools for lawyers and judges to aid their advocacy and decision making on behalf of LGBTQ youth. Special attention is given to helping lawyers and judges understand the unique needs and risk factors of LGBTQ youth, forming positive attitudes and beliefs about LGBTQ youth, developing strong attorney-client relationships, and using effective advocacy strategies.

\$9.95 (Catalog Number 5490444) 2008

Families in Need of Critical Assistance: Legislation and Policy Aiding Youth Who Engage in Noncriminal Misbehavior

This publication focuses on addressing the needs of juvenile status offenders (i.e., youth who run away, are “ungovernable” or truant) and their families. It provides a context for and explanation of the need to better serve families in crisis, reviews the causes and contexts within which youth engage in noncriminal misbehaviors, and suggests legislative and policy strategies to intervene early and divert juvenile status offenders from court systems.

\$19.99 (Catalog Number 5490443) 2007

Achieving Permanency for Adolescents in Foster Care: A Guide for Legal Professionals

Provides guidelines for judges and lawyers on practical strategies to help teens transition from foster care into situations giving them the best opportunity for a safe and stable future. Addresses issues adolescents face while seeking permanence, describe case types and legal/casework strategies. Covers permanency options, home recruitment and prevention of adoption disruption, juvenile justice system involvement, teen pregnancy and parenting, substance abuse, teen relationships, education, financial concerns, and disabilities -- and impact on permanence.

\$24.95 (Catalog Number 3490001) 2006 Companion training curriculum is available, call 202/662-1730.

Mythbusting: Breaking Down Confidentiality and Decision-Making Barriers to Meet the Education Needs of Children in Foster Care

Focuses on meeting the education needs of children in the child welfare system. Provides a context for and explanation of the need to better address education needs of foster children, debunks myths about confidentiality and decision-making, explains major federal laws that affect confidentiality of education records and decision-making, and suggests strategies to overcome confidentiality and decision-making hurdles when addressing the education needs of foster children.

On the internet at: <http://www.abanet.org/child/education/mythbusting2.pdf> **2006**

Building a Better Court: Measuring and Improving Court Performance and Judicial Workload in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases

Produced with the National Center for State Courts and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, this is designed to help courts handling child maltreatment cases make sustained advances in improving court performance to improve outcomes for abused/neglected children. Synthesizes methods/tools that can be tailored to courts measurement needs and data collection capabilities – helping establish reliable baseline measures as well as a process to regularly continue assessment efforts.

On the internet at: http://www.ncsconline.org/WC/Publications/Res_CtPerS_TCPS_PackGde4-04Pub.pdf **2005**

Legal Resource Manual for Foster Parents

Written for the National Foster Parent Association and the Child Welfare League of America, in conjunction with Legal Advocates for Permanency Planning, this is intended to educate foster parents about the legal process, giving them the knowledge and confidence needed to become active participants in the system.

For information on obtaining copies: <http://nfpainc.org/content/index.asp?page=PRODUCTS&nmenu=4> **2004**

Improving Outcomes for Older Youth: What Judges and Attorneys Need to Know

The Center, in conjunction with the National Resource Center for Youth Development, has released this comprehensive guide that addresses federal legislation affecting youth in out-of-home care and covers housing, health, education, employment, undocumented youth, parenting youth, and tribal youth, among other issues.

On the internet at: <http://www.nrcys.ou.edu/yd/resources/publications/pdfs/improveoutcomes.pdf> **2004**

How to Work With Your Court: A Guide for Child Welfare Agency Administrators

Second edition of this book; helps agency executives and judges set up effective agency-court meetings, addresses joint educational programs, improving federal law compliance, enhancing agency success rates in court actions, dealing with "problem" judges, and helping agencies obtain legal support. New edition covers challenges raised in federal Child and Family Services Reviews and Program Improvement Plans.

\$15.99 (Catalog Number 5490343) 2004

Learning Curves: Education Advocacy for Children in Foster Care

A culmination of article series appearing in *ABA Child Law Practice*, addresses: General education advocacy strategies; education rights/key federal laws; special education; educational needs of young children; school discipline policies' impact on foster children; and creative approaches to education barriers for foster children. Includes practice tips, commonly used psychological tests, education advocacy resources, and excerpts from key federal laws and regulations.

\$15.95 (Catalog Number 5490441) 2004

Legal Ethics in Child Welfare Cases

A culmination of article series in *ABA Child Law Practice*, addresses ethical issues for lawyers representing parents, children, and child welfare agencies in abuse/neglect and termination of parental rights proceedings. Covers quality representation, protecting client confidences, representing clients with diminished capacity, handling conflicts of interest, interacting with other parties, ethical issues in litigation, and special issues for Guardians ad Litem. Appendices include selected model rules, commentary and status of state rules review.

\$15.95 (Catalog Number 5490442) 2004

Promoting Community Child Protection: A Legislative Agenda

How state laws can assist community child protection work through partnerships between government, parents, extended families, neighborhoods and community organizations. Promotes situating services in communities; providing flexible, targeted and focused services on family needs/strengths; and preventing need for child welfare interventions by providing preventive services to at-risk families. Addresses legislative innovations on differential responses, family group decision-making, kinship care, guardianship alternatives, and domestic violence and substance abuse.

\$19.95 (Catalog Number 5490327) 2002

Making It Permanent: Reasonable Efforts to Finalize Permanency Plans for Foster Children

Designed to help judges issue orders and resolve disputes so children move more quickly into permanent placements and guide child advocates in eliciting information on agency efforts to move children into permanent homes. Addresses determining the permanency plan, assessing reasonable efforts to finalize a permanency plan for reunification, termination of parental rights/adoption, legal guardianship, relative placement, another planned permanent living arrangement, handling interstate placements (and use of the Interstate Compact), and securing adoption subsidies

\$14.95 (Catalog Number 5490326) 2002

Health for Teens in Care: A Judge's Guide

Designed to help judges, attorneys, and social workers ensure the well being of teens under court supervision, it is a step toward ensuring federal laws are used effectively to promote well being for teens in care.

\$14.95 (Catalog Number 5490315) 2002

Keeping Kids Out of the System: Creative Legal Practice as A Community Child Protection Strategy

Illustrates legal programs helping families so child protective services need not intervene with problems that can be resolved with attorney assistance. Describes projects helping families affected by HIV/AIDS, parents with mental health or substance abuse issues, and families needing public benefits help. Information on how each program helps avoid child protective intervention and is funded and staffed. Included are examples of program effectiveness and profiles of average clients, information on program partnerships with other organizations and disciplines, and challenges programs face

\$19.95 (Catalog Number 5490310) 2001

Making Sense of the ASFA Regulations: Roadmap for Effective Implementation

Analysis of 2000 regulations to assist state/local implementation of Titles IV-B/IV-E of the Social Security Act, as amended by the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act. Topics addressed, include reasonable efforts findings, judicial orders specifying child's placement, foster/adoptive home safety requirements, permanency hearings, termination of parental rights, and compliance with the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act. Appendix addresses administrative/constitutional law issues related to rules/preamble. Includes supporting legal authorities/list of further readings.

\$14.95 (Catalog Number 5490295) 2001

Representing Parents in Child Welfare Cases: Basic Introduction for Attorneys

A fundamental resource for attorneys representing parents in child protection proceedings. Introduces responsibilities and duties of parents' attorneys, reviews the stages of child protection cases, and highlights other key resources that discuss and explore the child welfare system. The book includes reference information on key federal laws and programs.

\$8.95 (Catalog Number 5490291) 2000

Handbook on Questioning Children: A Linguistic Perspective (2nd Edition)

Anne Graffam Walker, a forensic linguist who extensively trained on questioning child victim/witnesses, covers child understanding of adult questions, problems to look out for in interviewing, and language-related reasons for inconsistencies in child testimony. References, checklist, suggestions for child interviewing/questioning, sentence-building principles for talking to children, a prototype child competency *voir dire*, and an extensive author and subject index. Revises 1st edition, expanding list of principles for child questioning, and adds chapter on cross-cultural issues affecting child questioning.

\$19.95 (Catalog Number 5490271) 1999

Foundations for Success: Strengthening Your Agency Attorney Office

Child welfare agencies need to present strong, compelling cases in court to ensure safety and permanence for children. Yet all too often, agency legal representation is not at the level it could be. This aids child welfare agency attorney offices in making necessary changes, e.g., hiring practices, evaluation processes, practice standards, and efficient resource use to improve levels of representation. It highlights agency attorney offices around the country using creative and innovative methods to provide strong representation, and has appendices with such practical information as useful websites and forms.

\$14.95 (Catalog Number 5490111) 1999 Note: See ABA Standards of Practice for Lawyers Representing Child Welfare Agencies (2004) at: <http://www.abanet.org/child/agency-standards.pdf>

A Judge's Guide to Improving Legal Representation of Children

Material to help courts better access, utilize, and support lawyers appointed to represent abused and neglected children. Includes writings on how courts and children benefit from high caliber legal representation. Examines how judges can advocate for more resources to enhance representation. Includes readings on child representation issues and describes special situations where lawyers can provide unique assistance.

\$19.95 (Catalog Number 5490282) 1998

Note: See ABA Standards of Practice for Lawyers Who Represent Children in Abuse and Neglect Cases at: <http://www.abanet.org/child/repstandwhole.pdf>

What I Wish I'd Learned in Law School: Social Science Research for Children's Attorneys

This book presents more than twenty articles and interviews that help lawyers integrate the latest research into their practice. Topics include increasing the likelihood of successful adoptions for hard-to-place children, considering children's attachment in placement decisions, and practice tips for attorneys on parents with disabilities.

\$9.95 (Catalog Number 5490276) 1997

Making Differences Work: Cultural Context in Abuse/Neglect Practice For Judges and Attorneys

Outlines ways to interact with litigants from different cultures and backgrounds and identifies key culture and subculture issues. Features resource lists, practice tips, and questions/checklists designed to help lawyers and judges become more culturally sensitive.

\$15.99 (Catalog Number 5490051) 1996

The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children

Suggests actions that bar groups and attorneys should take. Topics include: assuring child safety; education, treatment, and awareness; legal representation of victims; limiting firearms access; custody and visitation; the child abuse-domestic violence nexus; and immigrant women and children.

\$6.00 (Catalog Number 5490248) 1994

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Go to the Center's Website--

<http://www.abanet.org/child/catalog/books.html>

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Older Center Publications

These or others at:

<http://www.abanet.org/child/additional.shtml>

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Guide to Federal Laws on Confidentiality and Disclosure of Information for Child Welfare Agencies

Child Abuse: A Police Guide

UN Convention on Rights of Child Compared with US Law Domestic Abuse and Custody Mediation Curricula

Establishing Core of Services for Families Subject to State Intervention

Establishing Ombudsman Programs for Children & Youth

Evaluating/Improving Agency Legal Representation

Guide to the Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994

On-Time Services to Preserve Families