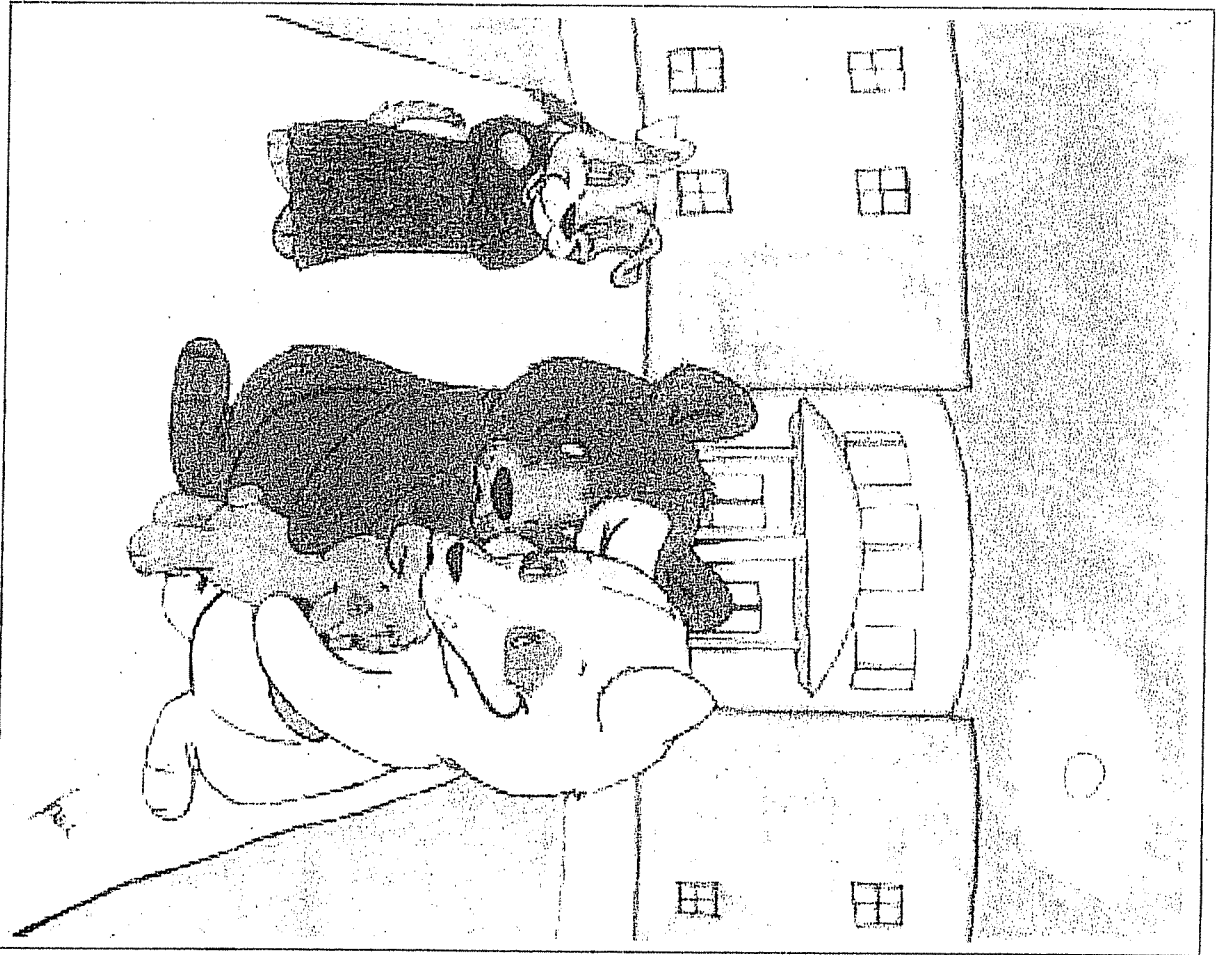


PARENT CALENDAR 2010-2011



Artwork by Josie, Age 13

# Important Contact Information

My Judge is:

Juvenile Court:  
Address: (503) 988-3022  
1401 NE 68th Avenue, Portland, OR 97213  
Downtown Court: 1021 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, OR 97204

My Caseworker is:

Telephone Number:  
Address:

My Attorney is:

Telephone Number:  
Address:

My SSA is:

Telephone Number:

My CASA is:

Telephone Number:

My Parent Mentor is:

Telephone Number:

My FTT Casemanager is:

Telephone Number:

My D/A Counselor is:

Telephone Number:

My Therapist is:

Telephone Number:

My Child's School:

My Child's Pediatrician:

Other:

Other:

# About This Calendar...

This calendar is a project of the Parent Orientation Subcommittee of the Child Welfare Council. This calendar was developed to help you through the court process and to help you keep track of court dates and appointments.

There is also information about the court process, common terms that you may hear during your case, and people who may be involved in your case.

Everyone in your case works to reunify the children with their families whenever possible. Parents, are the most important part of this process. We hope this calendar helps you keep track of all of your obligations that are necessary to reach the best result for your children.

\* Printing of this publication was made possible with funds from the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Oregon Judicial Department Juvenile Court Improvement Project.

# Courtroom Do's & Don'ts

**DO dress appropriately and professionally.** DO NOT wear shorts, halber-tops, torn jeans, short skirts, t-shirts with inappropriate logos or print. DO NOT wear a hat in court.

**DO arrive early to court.** DO NOT be late! The court will proceed without you and make important decisions about you and your child in your absence.

**DO behave in a respectful and calm manner while in court.**

DO NOT speak out of turn. The court hearing is being recorded so DO answer questions out loud. DO speak clearly. DO address the Judge as "Your Honor".

**DO NOT bring food or drink in the courtroom.** DO NOT chew gum in court.

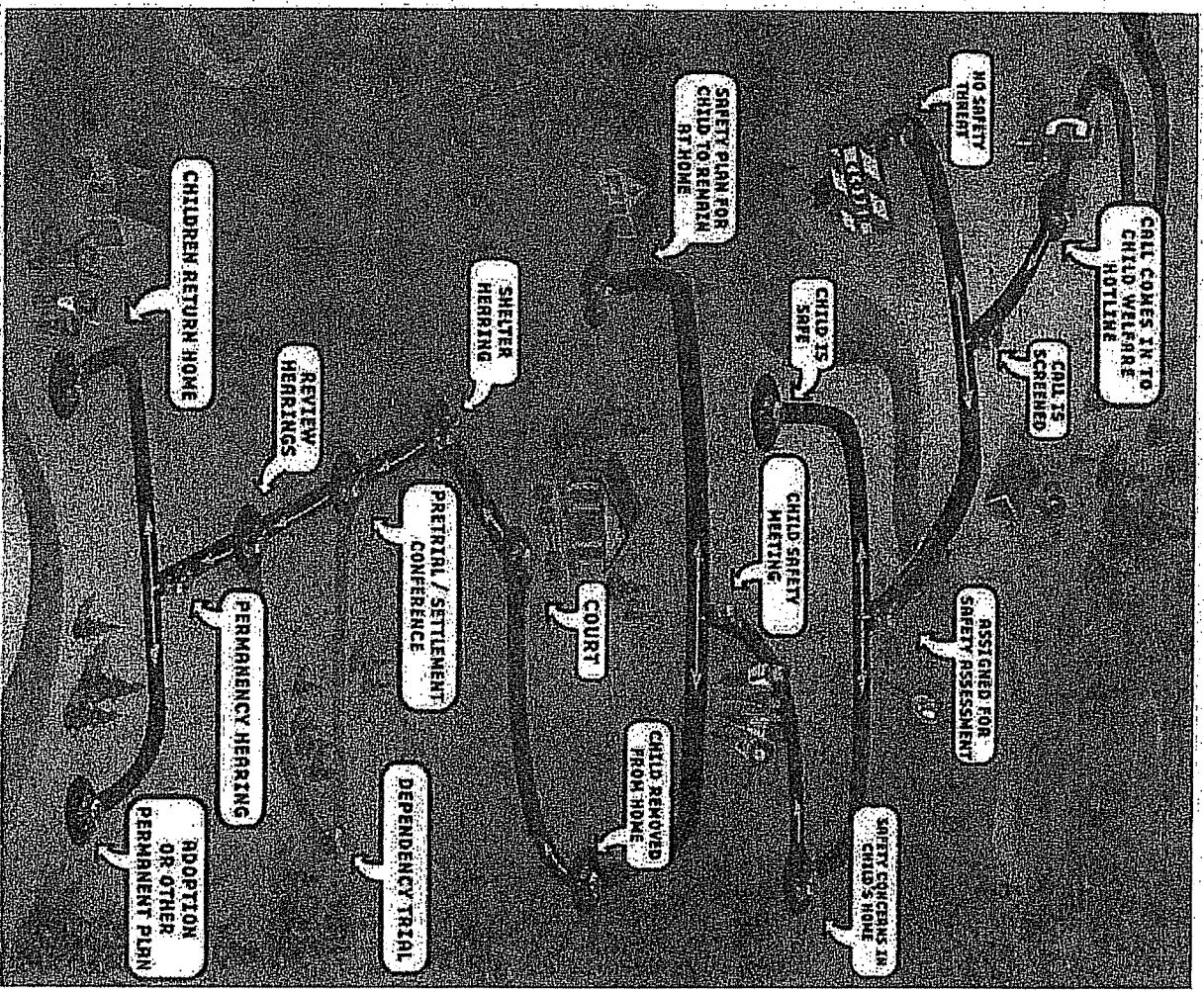
**DO turn off all electronic devices in court.** Camera, phones are not permitted inside the Juvenile Court. If you bring your cell phone into the courtroom, turn it off.

**DO contact your attorney before court.** Do not expect that your attorney will be able to advocate properly for you if you have not kept in contact with your attorney.

**DO bring your calendar to court.** Do write down the date and time of your next court hearing in your calendar. DO bring all other relevant documents to court. If you have any documents to present to the Judge, you should give them to your attorney.

**DO wait for a copy of the court order.**

# Road Map of the Juvenile Court



Created for Multnomah County by Amber Clough, MSW

## Definitions and Common Terms...

**Allegation:** An assertion made by a party in a legal proceeding, which the party then undertakes to prove.

**ASFA:** Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) is a federal law mandating certain practices, procedures, and policies in a state's child abuse and neglect statutes.

**CASA:** A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a trained volunteer and legal party to the case appointed by a judge to investigate a dependent child's situation and to make recommendations to the court about what is in the child's best interests.

**CAU:** The Child Abuse Unit (CAU) in conjunction with other agencies works to assist the court with preparation, information and case management of new and established dependency cases. CAU provides parents with a packet of information that includes summons, filed petition and notification of future court hearings.

**CRB:** The Citizens Review Board (CRB) is a group of trained, volunteers appointed by the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court upon the recommendation of the Presiding Judge, who review the progress of cases of children in foster care. Findings of the CRB are forwarded to the Court. CRB review may take the place of a court review, and if the court, upon reviewing the findings and recommendations of the CRB, believes a court hearing is necessary, the court may order that one be held.

**DA:** The District Attorney (DA) is the chief law enforcement officer in the county. The DA represents the state in some stages of dependency cases before the court.

**DHS:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) is the agency responsible for responding to reports from people in the community who believe children are being abused and neglected, helping families solve problems that cause abuse and neglect, working with families so their children can stay home or return home safely and finding safe permanent homes for children who cannot return home. All families with dependency cases in juvenile court will have a DHS Child Welfare caseworker who will work with the family and report to the court on the family's progress.

**DV:** Domestic Violence is commonly referred to by the acronym "DV". Domestic violence can be physical, but does not have to involve physical violence - it can involve non-physical violence such as mental, psychological, emotional abuse, financial abuse, abuse of others, threat of violence, sexual abuse, and other forms of abuse. You may ask your caseworker or attorney about getting the assistance of a DV Advocate to help you.

## Definitions and Common Terms...

**Dependency Case:** Case concerning a child who is, or alleged to be, abused or neglected.

**Dependency Petition:** A petition that alleges a child is within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court due to abuse or neglect.

**Family Decision Meeting:** A meeting involving the family and their support system. The meeting focuses on identifying family strengths and outlining issues of concern.

**FIT:** The Family Involvement Team, also known as FIT for Recovery, is a program that works for parents who struggle with substance abuse and addiction. It is a team effort among alcohol and drug treatment agencies, social service agencies, and the Court to help parents access alcohol and drug treatment as quickly as possible. FIT provides coordination between treatment agencies, DHS child welfare, and the court to ensure that parents can address challenges without becoming overwhelmed by competing demands. FIT exists to support parents confronting addiction so they can become the best parents they can be.

**IOWA:** The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a 1978 Federal Act that specifies how juvenile courts and DHS must handle child welfare cases involving Native American and Alaskan Native children. Native American and Alaskan Native children have special rights that need to be considered when making out-of-home placements. This act protects and preserves the bond between Indian children and their tribe and culture.

**Substitute Care:** An out-of-home placement directly supervised by DHS or other agency, including placement in a family foster home, group home or other child-care institution or facility.

**Temporary Custody (TC):** When a court makes an order superseding a parent or guardian's authority to make certain decisions for or about their child, it grants TC to another, most often a government agency. TC may be granted to DHS prior to jurisdiction upon a showing that there is probable cause to believe that allegations of abuse or neglect are true.

**Wardship:** When a child is found to be within the jurisdiction of the court, the child may be made a "ward of the court." Wardship lasts until it is vacated by a court order or expires by operation of law (for example, upon adoption of a child who has been a ward, under the jurisdiction of the court, on a dependency petition).

