

Family -- Standards for Child Custody and Parenting Time Investigation Reports

Directive #01-02
Issued by:

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Administrative Director

Attached are the Standards for Child Custody and Parenting Time Investigation Reports that have been approved by the Supreme Court. Part of our ongoing standardization effort in the Family Division, these standards were recommended by the Conference of Family Presiding Judges and endorsed by the Judicial Council. This Directive is the formal promulgation document for these standards, which should be implemented as soon as possible following appropriate training for judges and court staff. The Family Presiding Judge in each vicinage will train that vicinage's Family judges in the appropriate use of the investigation reports prepared pursuant to these Standards. Vicinage staff will be trained by the Family Division in each vicinage in conjunction with AOC staff.

The standards were developed to provide statewide uniformity and clarity (1) as to the situations appropriate for ordering Custody and Parenting Time Investigation Reports and (2) as to the procedures for completing such reports. By selecting the appropriate report type, the court can obtain the information it needs to make well-informed custody and parenting time determinations. These standards also will foster efficient use of court staff and time, as the intention is to encourage judges to order only the specific information elements they need to make a sound decision.

1. Revision of Court Rule 5:8-1

As recommended by the Family Presiding Judges, the Supreme Court on September 17, 2001 revised Court Rule 5:8-1 to designate the Family Division as the authorized entity for conducting custody and parenting time investigations rather than "the county probation office." This change will allow any properly qualified Family Division staff member to complete a Custody or Parenting Time Investigation Report or Home Visit Report, rather than limiting those functions to Probation staff.

2. Use of Alternate Dispute Resolution in Custody and Parenting Time Cases

The approved standards emphasize the use of alternate or complementary dispute resolution as the initial "court event" for custody and parenting time disputes, whenever appropriate, as outlined in R. 1:40-5. The court rule mandates the use of complementary dispute resolution for most custody parenting time matters. Accordingly, all counties should be providing mediation services for such matters as the first alternative to a court hearing. Mediation services can include consent conferencing as well as formal mediation sessions. Selected cases may be excluded from mediation by court rule, statute, or judicial determination.

3. Choosing the Appropriate Report Type

The standards provide the court with guidance in terms of matching the type of report ordered to the precise information needed by the court to make its determination. Before requesting any new report, however, the court should first consider any existing report that may already have been prepared by outside agencies such as DYFS, including psychological, psychiatric, and home investigation reports, if those existing reports can provide the court with the needed information and thus avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

The standards categorize the types of reports that should be requested based on the needs of the particular case (see page 3 of the standards). With regard to psychological, psychiatric or mental health evaluations, the standards provide that “[j]udges should order such reports only after mediation has failed and only if there is a clear indication that there are psychological or psychiatric issues that point to the necessity for such evaluations. An exception would be when a judge determines that mediation should not be conducted before such an evaluation is completed.” The standards also clarify the requisite qualifications for those conducting the visits, investigations or evaluation reports ordered by the court.

4. Confidentiality of Reports

Child Custody and Parenting Time Investigation Reports generated by Family Division staff are not confidential. Any and all parts of the report must be shared with all parties who are subjects of the report. All parties should receive a copy of any report, but at the Judge’s discretion subject to a protective order to help ensure the report’s confidentiality. The contents of the report and its preparer are subject to challenges and cross examination pursuant to current procedures, rules and case law.

5. Form of Order

The standards include a form of order that judges should use to order the specific type of Child Custody or Parenting Time Investigation Report needed in a particular case.

Any questions regarding these operational standards may be directed to the Administrative Office of the Courts, Family Practice Division, at (609) 984-4228.

CHILD CUSTODY AND PARENTING TIME INVESTIGATION REPORTS

Rule 5:8-1

The language in the Court Rule should be changed to authorize any qualified Family Division Staff to complete custody and parenting time investigation reports and that the designation of the county probation office be changed to the Family Division. This is consistent with the modification to court rules pertaining to Criminal Division and the conducting of the pre-sentence Investigations. The revised court rule would read:

5:8-1: Investigation Before Award

In family actions where the court finds that the custody of children is a genuine and substantial issue the court shall refer the case to mediation in accordance with the provision of R.1:40-5. If the mediation is not successful in resolving custody issues, the court may, before final judgment or order, require an investigation to be made by the [county probation office] Family Division of the character and fitness of the parties, the economic condition of the family and the financial ability of the party to pay alimony or support or both. In other family actions the court may, if the public interest so requires, order such an investigation. The court may continue any family action for the purpose of such investigation, but shall not withhold the granting of any temporary relief by way of alimony or support or both under R. 5:7-2 where the circumstances require. Such investigation of the parties shall be conducted by the [probation office] Family Division of the county of venue, notwithstanding that one of the parties may live in another county, and the [probation office] Family Division shall file its report with the court no later than 45 days after its receipt of the judgment or order requiring the investigation, unless the court otherwise provides. Such investigation of the parties shall be conducted by the [probation office] county of the home state of the child, notwithstanding that one of the parties may live in another country or state.

The court rule clearly supports alternate dispute resolution initiatives for custody/parenting time matters (excluding domestic violence). All counties should be providing mediation services as the first alternative to a court hearing. Mediation services can include consent conferencing as well as formal mediation sessions. When mediation fails, the court should be notified and made aware of any outstanding issues which requires judicial intervention (i.e., court ordered testing and evaluation of any kind). At this time the court determines the type of evaluation the case requires.

This revised rule authorizes Family Division staff to conduct custody investigations at the discretion of the court. Such investigations should provide information to the court to foster informed decisions regarding custody and shared parenting time between minor children and their parents when disputes arise. Requests for custody/parenting time investigations should be specific in nature and tailored to the immediate information needs of the court. Such requests should also be mindful of the qualifications of the personnel who will be completing the report. When the court requires assessments or investigations that address the psychological, psychiatric, or parental functioning capabilities of

parents, these assessments or investigations should be conducted only by qualified mental health professionals.

First and foremost, the safety of the child is the first consideration of the court. When the court becomes aware that DYFS is currently involved with the family, or recently closed a case (within the previous six months), the judge should be notified so that the required steps to include DYFS in the assessment of the family can be taken. When this occurs, the court makes efficient use of court staff and available resources by not duplicating DYFS efforts. DYFS has the ability to refer parties to any necessary mental health professionals and the court can order DYFS to submit any historical or current information that may assist the court in making a determination.

Custody/parenting time investigations can provide valuable ancillary information to the court for cases where the safety of the child is not in question, but conflicting information from the parties make it difficult to make a determination in the best interest of the child regarding custody/shared parenting time.

Custody/Shared Parenting Time Investigation Standards:

These standards are designed to further categorize the case processing of custody/parenting time disputes that come to the attention of the court and to add specificity to reports ordered from the bench. Statewide uniform practice centers around Court Rule 5:8-1 which requires the court to refer cases to mediation. Therefore all cases involving custody/parenting time disputes, except those excluded by statute (i.e., domestic violence cases) or policy, should be referred to mediation, in its various forms (i.e., consent conference/structured mediation) prior to being scheduled before a judge unless the court determines otherwise. Providing parties with an opportunity to participate in an alternate dispute resolution session allows parties to resolve their dispute through agreement and efficiently uses court time.

If this initial attempt at resolving the dispute fails, the Consent Conference Facilitator or Mediator should inform the court that the parties could not resolve the matter and may provide the court with a list of the remaining outstanding issues as stated by the parties. The court can then determine to continue mediation or decide another course of action for the case. If the court determines that the case needs an evaluation, it should designate what evaluation type is appropriate for the case.

These reports are intended to provide the court with information concerning the statutory factors the court must consider in custody decisions affecting minor children, N.J.S.A. 9:2-4c, namely:

- \$ The parties= ability to agree, communicate and cooperate in matters relating to children.
- \$ The parties= willingness to accept custody.
- \$ Any history of unwillingness to allow visitation not based upon substantiated abuse.
- \$ The interaction and relationship of the child(ren) with the parties and siblings.
- \$ The history of domestic violence, if any.
- \$ The safety of the child(ren).
- \$ The safety of either party from physical abuse by the other.
- \$ The preference of the child(ren) when of sufficient age and capacity to reason and form an intelligent decision.
- \$ The needs of the child.

- \$ The stability of the home environment offered.
- \$ The quality and continuity of the child(ren)'s education.
- \$ The fitness of the parties.
- \$ The geographic proximity of the parties' homes.
- \$ The extent and quality of the time spent with the child(ren) prior to or subsequent to the separation.
- \$ The parties' employment responsibilities.
- \$ The age and number of children.

Types of Reports:

Type 1 Home Inspection Report - This is a very specific observation driven and information gathering report limited to shared parenting time issues and questions the court needs answered. This can be a stand alone report or ordered in conjunction with other reports as the court deems necessary.

Type 2 Social Investigation Report - This report is reserved for cases with no recent history of DYFS involvement. A social investigation is an intensive information gathering process. The report should be based on observations and collateral contacts for verification of information regarding the social situation of both parties seeking custody. The information provided should assist the court in determining the long term best interest of the child(ren) in question. Conclusive evaluative judgments or recommendations pertaining to the psychological or emotional status and the parental functioning of the parties are to be made only by those licensed or certified professionals qualified to make such mental health judgments and recommendations (See Type 3). This may also be a stand-alone report if physical location has not been raised as an issue by the parties or the court.

Type 3 Psychological, Psychiatric, or Parental Functioning Assessments, or Mental Health Evaluations - These reports are ordered by the court when the court determines that such information is necessary to make a custody/shared parenting time determination. Only licensed or certified mental health professionals should conduct such assessments which should include definitive recommendations regarding the mental, emotional, or parental functioning status of the parties involved.

Judges should order such reports only after mediation has failed and only if

there is a clear indication that there are psychological or psychiatric issues that point to the necessity for such evaluations. An exception would be when a judge determines that mediation should not be conducted before such an evaluation is completed.

Report Type

Considerations/Options

DYFS Involved Cases

Any case that has been involved with DYFS during the last six months should not be immediately referred for a new custody/parenting time Social Investigation. To avoid duplication of effort, the court should review the available DYFS records and contact DYFS staff if additional information is required and order their records for review. DYFS collects extensive information on families and has the available resources that cannot be duplicated without the court, or the parties, absorbing the cost of such services.

Type 1 Home Inspection for Parenting Time

This type of report should be ordered when the court needs a factual description of the home where the child will be visiting. This report should be limited to criminal record checks for both parties; a description of the home based on observations during a home visit by the Family Division staff, including child-appropriate safety precautions (e.g., smoke alarms, child safety locks, window guards, stair gates, etc.); number of household occupants and relationship to child; animals present (if there is a health issue for the child); sleeping quarters for the child; and child care and transportation arrangements (if applicable). Recommendations if any, should be limited to observations and answering the specific questions the court has requested. This report can be a stand-alone report if physical location is the only issue that needs to be addressed in the case.

Type 2 Social Investigation for Custody Determination

This type of report is appropriate when conflicting information regarding which parent can serve the long term best interest of the child is presented before the

court but the psychological fitness of both parties is not in question. This report should include criminal record checks for both parties; previous court involvement; summary of background statements given by plaintiff/defendants; time availability and financial status of both parties; collateral contacts from school (i.e., child study team, guidance counselor, attendance records, school report card, teacher); pediatrician's report; counseling reports of child, if appropriate & available; child care arrangements available to both parties; neighborhood safety issues; recreational outlets for children (appropriate toys or plans offered by both parties); home inspection to include all aspects of safety and space as stated in the visitation report; results of any drug and alcohol screening reports ordered by the court and a fact based interview with a child or children (6 years or over) about daily activities, types of activities shared with parents, and sibling relationships, should be routinely included in the report. If, during the course of the investigation, the interviewer concludes that the court may benefit from an interview with the child, that should be stated in the report with a suggested list of special areas of inquiry for the judge to explore during the judge's interview.

Note: At the discretion of the court, a home inspection report may be waived as part of the social investigation if the issue of physical location has not been raised by the parties, or the court determines it is not an issue in the case.

Type 3 Psychological Reports, Psychiatric Assessments or, Parental Functioning Assessment Reports

Such reports should be ordered when the court determines that a social investigation will not provide the information needed to make a custody or parenting time decision. These mental health determinations should be made only by licensed practitioners.

Judges should order such reports only after mediation has failed and only if there is a clear indication that there are psychological or psychiatric issues that point to the necessity for such evaluations. An exception would be when a judge determines that mediation should not be conducted before such an evaluation is completed.

Form Order

The conference of Family Presiding Judges has developed a form order (attached) that lists the

three types of investigations that can be conducted, allowing the judge to order the appropriate type of investigation. In addition, training will be provided to judges and staff at appropriate training programs to better inform judges and staff about the three types of investigation reports.

Confidentiality of Reports

Child Custody and Parenting Time Investigation Reports generated by Family Division staff are not confidential. Any and all parts of the report must be shared with all parties who are subjects of the report. All parties should receive a copy of any report, but at the Judge's discretion subject to a protective order to help ensure the report's confidentiality. The contents of the report and its preparer are subject to challenges and cross examination pursuant to current procedures, rules and case law.

This provision does not in any way affect the distribution of privately purchased custody evaluations. Those reports are the property of the purchaser of the service and are subject to the prescribed rules of discovery and related evidentiary rules of court.

ATTACHMENTS TO DIRECTIVE # 01-02

1. Reference Guide
2. Custody/Parenting Time Investigation Order
3. Home Inspection Report
4. Custody/Parenting Time Social Investigation Report
5. School Release Form
6. Medical Release Form

Attachment 1: Reference Guide

TYPE	PURPOSE	REPORT PERSONNEL
<p>TYPE 1 Home Inspection Report - This is a very specific observation driven and information gathering report limited to shared parenting time issues and questions the court needs answered.</p>	<p>Home Inspection for Shared Parenting Time This type of report should be ordered when the court needs a factual description of the home where the child will be visiting. This report shall be limited to criminal record checks for both parties; description of the home based on observations during a home visit by Family Division Staff. Can be a stand alone report.</p>	<p>FAMILY DIVISION STAFF</p>
<p>TYPE 2 Social Investigation Report-This report is reserved for cases with no recent history of DYFS involvement. A social investigation is an in depth information gathering process. The report should be based on observations and collateral contacts for verification of information regarding the social status of both parties seeking custody. The Information provided should assist the court in determining the long term best interest of the child(ren) in question.</p>	<p>Social Investigation/Best Interest Report These reports are appropriate when conflicting information regarding which parent can serve the long term best interest of the child is presented before the court. This report should include criminal record checks for both parties; previous court involvement; summary of background statements given by plaintiff/defendants; time availability and financial status of both parties; collateral contacts from school (i.e., child study team, guidance counselor, attendance records, school report card, teacher); Pediatrician report; counseling reports of child, (if appropriate & available); child care arrangement available to both parties; neighborhood safety issues; recreational outlets for children.</p>	<p>FAMILY DIVISION STAFF</p>

<p>TYPE 3 Psychological, Psychiatric, Parental Functioning Assessments, or Mental Health Evaluations- These reports are ordered by the court when the court determines that such information is necessary to make a custody/Shared Parenting Time determination. Only qualified mental health professionals should conduct such assessments which should include definitive recommendations regarding the mental, emotional, or parental functioning status of the parties involved.</p>	<p>Psychological Reports, Psychiatric Assessments or, Parental Functioning Assessment Reports</p> <p>Such reports should be ordered when the court determines that a social investigation will not provide the information needed to make a Custody or Parenting Time decision. These mental health determinations should be made only by licensed or trained personnel.</p>	<p>Licensed/Certifi ed Mental Health Professionals (located within/outside the Judiciary)</p>
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Attachment 2: Custody/Parenting Time Investigation Order

**Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Family Part
CUSTODY/PARENTING TIME INVESTIGATION ORDER**

Plaintiff:	Defendant:	Docket No:
Plaintiff's Attorney:	Defendant's Attorney:	County:

Pursuant to a proceeding before the Superior Court, Chancery Division, Family Part on this day, it is ordered that ☐ Plaintiff ☐ Defendant ☐ Third Party submit to a custody/parenting time investigation as prescribed by the court below:

☐ Home Inspection Report (addressing physical home accommodations, e.g., space, sleeping arrangements, safety precautions, etc.)

- ☐ Plaintiff's residence
- ☐ Defendant's residence
- ☐ Third Party residence (e.g., day care provider)

☐ Social Investigation Report (Social functioning report of parents/guardians, criminal record checks, financial status, statements from parties, school reports, medical status of children (when appropriate), child interview, substance abuse reports ordered by the court, collateral contacts, etc.)

- ☐ Plaintiff
- ☐ Defendant
- ☐ Third Party : Name _____

Address _____

☐ Psychological, Psychiatric, or Parental Functioning Assessment and/or Substance Abuse Evaluations (Conducted by licensed/certified mental health professionals to determine psychological/mental fitness of parents/guardians).

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaintiff | <input type="checkbox"/> Parental Functioning Assessment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Defendant | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychological Assessment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Third Party (Child, relative) | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatric Assessment |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse Evaluation |

So ORDERED by the Court:

_____, J.S.C.

Date:

Attachment 3: Home Inspection Report

HOME INSPECTION REPORT

Date/Time: _____

Case Name(s): _____

Docket Number(s): _____

Party Visited: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

NAMES AND RELATIONSHIPS OF PERSONS PRESENTLY RESIDING IN THE HOME

Name:

Relationship:

(use additional sheet if necessary)

Type of Neighborhood: Urban _____ Apt. Complex _____ Rural _____ Other _____

Length of Residency: _____ Rent _____ Own _____

Exterior Condition of Home/Apt: _____

Number of Rooms: _____ Bedrooms: _____ Bath(s): _____

Sleeping Arrangements: _____

Adequate Cooking and Eating Facilities: Yes _____ No _____ (if no, explain)

Adequate Facilities (bedrooms, bathrooms, living space) for Number of Persons in the Home?

Yes _____ No _____ (if no, explain)

HOME INSPECTION REPORT (continued)

Basement: Yes _____ No _____ Garage: Yes _____ No _____

Backyard: Yes _____ (if yes, describe condition) No _____

Appropriate Heat/Ventilation Yes _____ No _____

Adequate Water and Working Plumbing: Yes _____ No _____

Smoke Detectors: Yes _____ No _____

Window Guards, (if appropriate) Yes _____ No _____ N/A _____

Hazardous Items Appropriately Secured: Yes _____ No _____ (if no, explain)

Adequate Furnishings: Yes _____ No _____

Facilities in Good Working Condition? Yes _____ No _____ (if no, explain)

Condition of Housekeeping in Relation to Safety of Child(ren)

Number & Types of Pets:

Additional Comments/Problem Areas:

Submitted By:

Date:

Signature

Name & Title (typed or printed)

Attachment 4: Custody/Parenting Time Social Investigation Report

CUSTODY/PARENTING TIME SOCIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

Case Name:		Docket #:	
Date Ordered:		Court Date:	
Judge:		Report Type:	
Plaintiff's Attorney:		Defendant's Attorney:	
Attorney's phone #:		Attorney's phone #:	
Name(s) of Child(ren)	Date(s) of Birth	Age(s)	Residence
PARTY PROFILE			
Plaintiff		Defendant	
Name(s):		Name(s):	
Relationship to child:		Relationship to child:	
D.O.B.		D.O.B.	
Birth Place:		Birth Place:	
S.S. #:		S.S. #:	
Address:		Address:	
Phone:		Phone:	
# of People in Household:		# of people in Household:	

Description of Residence:	Description of Residence:
PARTY PROFILE CONTINUED	
Education:	Education:
Employer:	Employer:
Additional Income:	Additional Income:
Number of Children Living at Residence:	Number of Children Living at Residence:
Health Status:	Health Status:
Substance Abuse:	Substance Abuse:
Arrest History:	Arrest History:

PREFACE: (Overview of case and case history) (17 lines)

1. Previous court actions/investigations on involved children and any decisions made. (If no decision yet, include last recommendation made.)
2. Description of family unit and children.
3. Brief description of reasons for family break-up.
4. Who is requesting custody/visitation, and reasons. (Briefly summarize.)

PLAINTIFF'S & DEFENDANTS ACCOUNT OF SOCIAL HISTORY: (17 lines each)

1. Provide plaintiff's or defendant's account. Do not use "stated, claimed", etc., as heading already notes such. However, to avoid choppiness or ambiguity of source, an occasional "Mr./Mrs. Jones said" is acceptable.
2. List in sequence: education, employment (enough to demonstrate present status and earning power and potential), financial health, community ties, prior records, statement of other significant relationships (new spouse, etc.), current situation.
3. Home visit - include date, physical description (number of bedrooms, living room, kitchen, etc.), housekeeping standards and atmosphere. Also, names of all people living in home and their relationship to the children.
4. If another county/state agency is investigating one of the parties, note under appropriate heading the name of the investigating authority and whether report is attached or awaited. Also, note here any information from other investigating authority.
5. Use the following codes to indicate if the information contained in these sections have been verified:

V - verified
UV - unable
AV - awaiting verification

**PLAINTIFF'S & DEFENDANT'S SOCIAL HISTORY AS IT RELATES TO THE CHILD(REN)
INVOLVED : (50-60 lines each)**

This section should not be centered around why either parent feels the other is an unacceptable parent, although this must be included. Positives, such as examples of their own parenting skills (past and present) must be included, or their absence noted, including:

1. Plans for child care if working (baby-sitters, day care, etc.);.
2. How they feel they relate to children (use examples);.
3. Details of care for any physical, emotional problems, educational needs, recreational needs, ordinary emotional needs.

If there are specific charges involving the welfare of the child, get examples and statements of witnesses, if possible; also, what parent did about any abuse (called police, DYFS, took to doctor, etc.). Also, check how they would react to joint custody or visitation (overnight or for the day); any problems with present arrangements; are their plans realistic, well thought out; are they willing to ensure the other parent has the chance for a good relationship with the child.

It is here that you would describe in greater detail the reasons for any marital/family breakup, whenever it relates to the welfare of the child or children.

STATUS AND STATEMENTS OF CHILDREN: (50 - 60 lines)

If more than one child, list information regarding each child separately, beginning each child's portion with the name underlined, e.g., Mary Jones, age 13 is . . .

Include general statement as to scholastic adjustment, health, any employment, religion, etc.

Describe child's room, clothing, toys, games, emotional status (both the apparent, and any described by medical authority), attitude towards other family members.

Discuss child's perception of each parent, both positive and negative, with specific examples. Don't be vague.

Note child/parent interaction whenever both can be seen together.

List Special Areas of Inquiry for the Judge. If none, write "none".

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS: (50 - 60 lines)

Interviews with significant others (new spouse, other adults living in the home, baby-sitters, etc.).

Schools (include school reports), counseling treatment if unable to place in social history, i.e., DYFS , Probation records.

Submitted By:

Date:

Signature

Name & Title (typed or printed)

Attachment 5: School Release/Report Form

SCHOOL RELEASE FORM

PERMISSION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

_____ Name of Child	_____ Date of Birth
_____ Address	_____ Grade
_____ School/Institution	_____ School Address

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby grant permission to the _____ [name of institution] to furnish records of any physical or mental examination and/or social investigation or history concerning the above named child and/or his/her family, to the _____ County Superior Court, Family Division.

A reproduction of this authorization shall be considered as effective and valid as the original.

This authorization shall become invalid one year from the date signed.

Signed: _____ Relationship: _____

Witness: _____

Date: _____

TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS:

For High School Students - Please attach a copy of the student's transcript, current report card, test record, attendance record, and when applicable, special services report.

For All Other Students - Please attach a copy of the student's current report card (other appropriate report cards, if available, test records, and attendance records.

For All Students -Please complete attached questionnaire.

School Report

Name of School _____

Name of Child _____

1. Does this student seem to be performing at his or her level of academic ability?

YES

NO

(Explain)

2. Has this student's behavior in school resulted in disciplinary action by the administration?

Yes

No

(If yes, explain)

(If the student was suspended, describe behaviors, indicate number of times and identify infractions)

3. Has this student been referred to Special Services?

Yes

No

(If yes, list name and phone number of caseworker and we will seek additional information from your Special Services/Child Study Team)

4. Does this student have any health factors (physical or emotional) of which the court should be aware?

Yes

No

(If yes, explain)

5. Describe how the student relates with his or her peers. If there is any exceptional behavior, please explain.

7. REMARKS: (Please make any additional remarks in this section)

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Title: _____

Attachment 6: Medical Release Form

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

PERMISSION TO RELEASE MEDICAL INFORMATION

Name of Child

Provider/Institution

Date of Birth

Address

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby grant permission to the _____ [health care provider, institution, or public entity] to furnish any physical or mental examination records and/or social investigation or history records concerning the above named child and/or his/her family to the _____ County Superior Court, Family Division.

A reproduction of this authorization shall be considered as effective and valid as the original.

This authorization shall become invalid one year from the date signed.

Signed: _____ Relationship: _____

Witness: _____ Date: _____

TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDER:

Please provide a brief summary of medical/treatment history of the child named above.

Date: _____ Signature: _____