

Jurisdiction

At this hearing, the court will determine if sufficient grounds exist for the court to find that the child falls within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. (WIC 355) CASA does not take a position on these issues. Occasionally, CASA will write a report due to a lengthy jurisdictional contest and the particular needs for services of the child.

When to file a Report: It may be appropriate to file this report when there is a lengthy jurisdiction contest. CASA's must follow the early assignment protocol established by California CASA. **The purpose of this report would be to bring to the courts attention immediately needed services for the child(ren), youth(s) and family.**

You will need the following information for the Report

Total Hours

ICWA

Date of Detention

Total Out of Home Care

Number of Placements

Persons Contacted

Recommendation: List out your recommendations for needed services for the child(ren), youth, and family. Do not give rationale here. Support recommendations in the various sections of the report

Assessment and Observations:

- First state CASA's date of appointment
- Give a short description of the child - physical appearance, age, interests, and anecdotes. The court looks to this section of the CASA report for your input so that they can 'meet the child' as they seldom do in person.
- Support your recommendations in this section unless they fit into the following sections.

Health: Bring to the courts attention the status and any issues in the following topic areas that apply. [Dental, CHDP, Immunizations, Counseling, Behavior Issues, Medication, and any Service providers' quotes].

Education: Complete the educational advocacy checklist, identify objectives, and create an action plan if applicable for your child(ren). Also, determine who holds the educational rights and if the court needs to name a new educational representative / educational surrogate (WIC 361.). You may not have all the above fully completed for this report. Provide as much information regarding [School, Grade, Special Education Needs, IEP, Teachers' comments] as you can.

Sibling Relationships: Does the child have siblings, and are they under the court's jurisdiction? The court should also consider the nature of the relationship between the child and his or her siblings, the appropriateness of developing or maintaining the sibling relationships pursuant to Public Social Services Section 16002, and the impact of the sibling relationships on the child's placement and planning for legal permanence.

Sibling Notice: (WIC 290.1) Has a sibling(s) 10 years of age or over and is the subject of a dependency hearing or judged to be a dependent child of the juvenile court been notified of this hearing?

Sibling Relationship: raised together, shared experiences, strong bond, appropriateness of developing or maintaining the relationship for each of the siblings.

Placement: Are the siblings placed together? Should they be placed together? Why, or why not?

Visitation: Frequency of visits, nature of visits. Does the child express desire to visit or live with sibling(s)? Is ongoing contact in the children's best emotional interest? (Get therapeutic input when possible.) Does the sibling relationship impact the permanent plans for the children?

Type and Appropriateness of Placement: Briefly describe where the child is (foster care, shelter, with relatives or parents). State if you believe this placement is appropriate or if you believe it needs to be changed. If you know, state again how many placements the child has had.

Visitation: What is the current visitation agreement (not included if the child is in the parent's care)? How are visits going? How does the child react to visits? Should anything be changed?