

IN RE:
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
CONCERNING FRANKLIN COUNTY
JUVENILE DEPENDENCY ORDERS
RELATIVE TO COVID-19 MATTERS

: IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
: OF THE 39th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
: OF PENNSYLVANIA –
: FRANKLIN COUNTY BRANCH
:
: A.D. No. 29 of 2020 ✓

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

AND NOW, to wit, this 20th day of March 2020, it is hereby **ORDERED**, **ADJUDGED**, and **DECREED** that due to public health advisories to reduce exposure to novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19") to slow the spread of the disease, visitation provisions for adjudicated youth shall be modified as follows:

All visitations by Order of Court and/or pursuant to Pennsylvania Code Sections 3130.68 and/or 3490.235 between an adjudicated youth in placement and a parent, guardian, sibling, kin or relative, or prospective placement resource; Guardian *ad Litem* or attorney; and/or Franklin County Children and Youth Services staff shall be conducted by a method of telecommunication. Telecommunication shall include video conference, telephone calls, Facetime, Skype, and Zoom communication, and any and all other video or audio communication to effectuate meaningful and effective visitation and/or contact. Telecommunication visitation shall be permitted more frequently, and telecommunication visitation should be encouraged to be more liberal with frequent contact occurring as schedules, technology, and other considerations permit.

FURTHER, it is **ORDERED**, **ADJUDGED**, and **DECREED** that Franklin County Children and Youth Service ("Agency") shall make any and all reasonable efforts to assist the facilitation of visitation between parents/legal guardians and children pending the evolving public health advisories concerning COVID-19 to carry out

Filed MAR 20 2020

Henry Mann
Clerk

telecommunication visitation. Reasonable efforts by Franklin County Children and Youth Service to assist families in facilitating telecommunication visitation include the following:

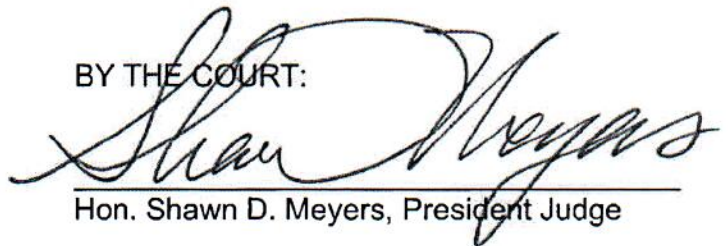
1. The Agency caseworker shall arrange the date and time for the first telecommunication visit with the parent/guardian and kinship/foster parent. Video shall be utilized if both parent/guardian have access to video. If the parent/guardian does not have access to a telephone, the Agency shall facilitate the phone call or video chat by appropriate means, including allowing access to an Agency telephone.
2. All scheduled telecommunication visits shall be documented in the Agency case file via electronic notation in CAPS. Once the parent/guardian and kinship/foster parent agree upon a telecommunication visitation schedule, the schedule shall be documented in CAPS as well.
3. Telecommunication visits shall be supervised to the extent that contact visits were supervised. The supervising kinship/foster parent, or Agency worker as necessary, is responsible for ensuring that the visit occurs on speaker phone and for remaining within hearing distance for the duration of the call.
4. If the telecommunication visit is with an infant or young child, the kinship/foster parent should provide the parent/guardian with information about how the child(ren) is(are) doing, any concerns, the routine, overall adjustment, developmental changes, etc., and allow the parent/guardian to talk to the child via speaker phone. Kinship/foster parents who may be

resistant should be reminded that this has been court-ordered, and will be reviewed at the next hearing.

5. Following all telecommunication visits, the Agency caseworker shall follow-up with the kinship/foster parent to ascertain how the scheduled visit went, and update the electronic file via CAPS. The visitation notes should include the date and time of the telecommunication visit, the date and time of the visit follow-up, all visit participants, how the parent/guardian interacted, how the child/ren interacted, positives noted, concerns noted, and any other noteworthy reports.
6. If concerns arise from telecommunication visits to the degree that the Agency determines that it is no longer appropriate for the visits to be facilitated by the parent/guardian and kinship/foster, the Agency shall be responsible for facilitating the visits.

This Order shall remain in effect until further Administrative Order of Court.

BY THE COURT:



Hon. Shawn D. Meyers, President Judge

Administrative Order
AD 29-2020

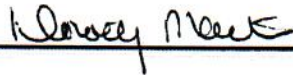
March 23, 2020, served personally by me, Copy of Order signed by P.J. Shawn D. Meyers, on March 20, 2020.

Via Interoffice Mail:

Court Admin
Judge Krom
Judge Meyers
Judge Sponseller
Judge Shank
Judge Zook
Doug Amsley, FCC&YS
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Deputy Clerk