# Technical Assistance Bulletin

Child Abuse and Neglect Cases: A National Analysis of State Statutes

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ERMANENCY PLANNING FOR CHILDREN PROJECT

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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# Technical Assistance Bulletin

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# PERMANENCY PLANNING FOR CHILDREN PROJECT

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

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# **Child Abuse and Neglect Cases:** A National Analysis of State Statutes

Shirley Dobbin Sophia Gatowski Krista R. Johns Margaret Springgate

Technical Assistance Bulletin is a publication of the Permanency Planning for Children Project of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. The publication is made possible by the contributions of state court improvement specialists, judges, and other professionals from across the country. We extend our gratitude to all who participated in the gathering of information for this endeavor.

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# Introduction

The beginning of the current reformation of child welfare laws and the involvement of courts in child protection can be found in the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980,<sup>1</sup> better known as P.L. 96-272. The goals of P.L. 96-272 were to prevent unnecessary removal of children from their parents, to hasten the return of removed children to their families, and to provide for the timely adoption of children who could not be returned to their family of origin. With the incentives of federal funding, the law requires, among other things, that:

- Social service agencies provide services to prevent children from being removed from their families and to allow removed children to return home:
- The court review voluntary arrangements between social services agencies and parents which involve out-of-home placement within 6 months after a child is first placed;
- The court promptly examine each involuntary removal of a child from the family to determine whether continued out-of-home placement is necessary for the welfare of the child;
- The social service agency develop a case plan for each child which provides for placement of the child in the least restrictive, most home-like environment within proximity of the parent 's home;
- ► The court make findings about whether reasonable efforts have been made

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 42 U.S.C. §670 et seq. (1989)

#### Introduction

by social services to provide services to prevent removal of the child, to return a removed child to the parent, and to move the child to a permanent home as soon as possible;

- The court hold ongoing reviews of the case at least every 6 months, to check progress in the case and to determine if out-of-home placement is still required;
- The court hold a permanency hearing no later than 18 months after a child has been removed from the home to determine the permanent placement plan for that child;
- Throughout the process, the court assure that parents are provided procedural safeguards against removal of their children.

Many states' statutes are still virtual mirror images of the specific requirements of P.L. 96-272. And yet, in the years since its 1980 passage, agency and court practice has been pressed to respond to increasing case loads and new understandings of appropriate intervention. Between 1980 and 1993, reports of child maltreatment increased more than 155%.<sup>2</sup> By 1993, child protective services were receiving two million reports per year; 43 of every 1,000 children in America were the subjects of abuse and neglect reports. The National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect found that between 15 and 20% of reports received by social services were substantiated, with 17% of victims in substantiated cases

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Child Maltreatment 1993: Reports from the States to the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. NCCAN (1995).

being removed from their homes.<sup>3</sup> This number correlates closely with the number of cases formally brought for court action.

Despite the obvious demands placed on the child welfare system by these increases in numbers, few courts or social service agencies have seen proportionate increases in resources to address the need. Much has been learned since 1980 about the importance of comprehensive early services, and individualized, regular monitoring of case progress in order to achieve effective outcomes for abused and neglected children. However, it is only in the past three or four years that reallocation and infusion of resources, along with significant changes in the approach to child welfare practice, have become universally recognized as critical capacity building elements to stem the tide of families in trouble.

Since 1994, 49 states have undertaken studies of court practice in child abuse and neglect cases, identifying key areas of need and recommending improvements. These State Court Improvement Projects<sup>4</sup> have served as an impetus for legislative reform at a level not seen since the passage of P.L. 96-272.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Child Maltreatment 1993: Reports from the States to the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. NCCAN (1995).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Court Improvement Programs were funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under authorization from the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-66). States electing to participate were to: identify a state advisory group to guide the work of the program to improve court's handling of cases involving abuse, neglect, foster care, and adoption; assess current practice; develop a report of recommendations for court improvement; and implement recommendations.

#### Introduction

Our research has identified significant legislative changes in child welfare statutes in 7 states in the past three years. Another 30 states are contemplating changes in the next three years.

As changes of this magnitude are made, it will be important to track the changes, note their impact, and identify subsequent developments. This document is intended to provide a view of state child welfare statutes at a particular point in time -- June 1997 -- in order to memorialize existing law and to serve as a baseline to analyze the State Court Improvement reforms.

Our anticipation is that one or two updated versions of this publication will follow in the next years, to provide for comparison of legislative developments.

# The National Research Project

In November 1996, the Permanency Planning Project of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) embarked upon a national research effort designed to identify existing statutes and actual court practice in the processing of child abuse and neglect cases. The research used three methodologies: (i) an analysis of all statutes concerning dependency proceedings; (ii) a mail-out questionnaire asking respondents specific questions about their state's statutes; and (iii) a lengthy telephone interview designed to elicit information on actual practice in a variety of areas related to case processing within each state. Court improvement specialists in each state were contacted and asked to participate in the research. The specialists, or their designee(s), were chosen for this research because of their ability to discuss actual practice in child abuse and neglect cases as well as state-wide issues. This report contains results of the first stage in the research.

### Identifying State Child Abuse and Neglect Statutes

Over the course of a 12-month period, NCJFCJ researchers reviewed all state statutes pertaining to the processing of child abuse and neglect cases. In this review, particular attention was paid to mandated deadlines and time frames. For example, deadlines for the filing of the petition, various necessary hearings, filing

#### The National Research Project

of reports, and court reviews were noted.<sup>5</sup> Attention was also paid to reasonable efforts to prevent removal of a child and representation of parents and children. For each state, researchers reviewed the relevant information and compiled a summary state matrix. This matrix was then sent to court improvement specialists in each state who were asked to review the summary and note any incorrect or misrepresented information. Once all revisions were incorporated, the state matrices then underwent a final review by a project attorney. After the final review, a summary matrix for each state was produced (See Appendix B), as well as a "master matrix" comparing the states on mandated time frames (See Appendix A).

## Comparing State Statutes with Actual Implementation

In addition to a matrix summarizing their state's statutes for review, each court improvement specialist received a short questionnaire. The questionnaire included both close-ended and open-ended questions designed to elicit specific information from respondents about how closely statutory time frames are followed in practice in each state. For example, respondents were asked for their assessment of the use of continuances on mandated time frames, and to note the conditions under which continuances are typically granted. Respondents were also asked to identify problematic issues associated with their state's statutes, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For a national summary of state statutes see S. A. Dobbin, S.I. Gatowski, & M. Springgate, "Child Abuse and Neglect: A National Summary of State Statutes," (1997) 48(4) *Juvenile and Family Court Journal* 41.

to identify particularly effective or helpful statutes. An empirical code was constructed for both the close-ended and open-ended questions and all responses were coded and statistically analyzed. The results of this comparative analysis of statutes and practice will be presented and discussed in an upcoming publication.

## Detailing Practice and Improvement Efforts

Court improvement specialists were asked to participate in a telephone interview with a member of the research project team and to provide supplemental and supporting information. The telephone interviews were semi-structured and typically lasted 1 hour to 1 ½ hours. The purpose of the interviews was to gather information and perceptions about each state's overall system for processing child abuse and neglect cases. To this end, interviewees were asked to identify strengths and weaknesses of the overall case processing system and to identify their state's improvement goals and steps being taken to achieve these goals. Interviewers also gathered information about time management and case flow, including the reasons for untimely outcomes, processes and systems for monitoring cases and spotting delays, time frames for hearings, permanency, and the termination of parental rights, and a description of the judiciary's role in case progress.

Interviewees were asked to provide a general description of hearings and review procedures, pointing out what works particularly well in addition to problematic aspects of these events. A number of related areas were explored, including representation, training, reasonable efforts, and experience with the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children and the Indian Child Welfare

#### The National Research Project

Act. Finally, interviewees were asked about their own background, experience, and specific interests in the area of child abuse and neglect, in order to provide additional context for their responses.

An empirical code was constructed for both the close-ended and openended interview questions. Interview responses were then coded and project researchers are currently in the process of analyzing the interview data. A review of all additional documentation provided by the interviewees is also underway, with a report detailing the findings of the interview component of the overall national research effort to be available early in 1998.

#### **About the Statutory Analysis**

In its work with juvenile and family courts across the country, the NCJFCJ has routinely been asked what procedures and time lines exist in other states for processing child abuse and neglect cases. It became clear that there was a need to gather and compile this data in a convenient, readily accessible publication. The research was undertaken with the objective of providing useful information to individual courts as well as state and federal policy makers.

Information summarized in this publication reflects statutes in effect as of June 30, 1997, as the data is intended to serve as a baseline. Many states have recently enacted statutory changes, have changes pending, or are in the process of proposing changes. This comprehensive review of state statutes facilitates comparisons across and between different states and enables states contemplating new laws to see how other jurisdictions have approached similar issues.

Moreover, this review provides baseline information for understanding the impact and trends of the new legislation. Statutory changes will be tracked in future editions of this publication.

One of the most difficult initial tasks in preparing the state matrices and master matrix was interpreting each state's statutory language for placement of the statute within the categories defined by this project. In the category of "emergency hearing," for example, researchers had to consider whether hearings entitled "detention hearing," "shelter hearing," or "probable cause hearing" described the first court hearing held following involuntary removal of a child from parental custody. To interpret different terminology, the researchers

#### **About the Statutory Analysis**

reviewed the entire body of juvenile statutes for each jurisdiction in order to gain an understanding of start-to-finish procedures used by the courts in that state. At any point in the process when the statutes assigned a time requirement, all efforts were used to determine where, within the generally defined categories of this project, that procedure fit.

A second difficulty encountered by the researchers in preparing the matrices was the challenge of separating time lines and procedures in states which had combined delinquency-dependency statutes. For example, many statutes that appeared to apply to dependency proceedings also had a punitive element for runaways and other status offenders. Every attempt was made to include time lines which only apply to dependency proceedings, even though the procedure might also apply to delinquency or status proceedings.

Not every state has specific time deadlines for the procedures outlined in statute. When available, the matrices set forth the statutory deadlines for action. It should be noted, however, that in many states, the times can be extended if the deadline falls on a Saturday or Sunday or a holiday; other states provide that only work days or judicial days are to be counted. Most states also have provisions for continuances which are not reflected in the time lines shown in the Data Summaries and Charts.

Information about state child abuse and neglect statutes is presented in three forms: (1) a summary of mandated deadlines and primary issues; (2) the master matrix (Appendix A) which compares the states in 8 major categories relating to mandated time frames in dependency procedures (i.e., filing of petition, emergency hearing, adjudicatory hearing, disposition hearing, court review, court permanency plan review, permanency deadline, and termination of parental

rights); and (3) a compilation of individual state matrices (Appendix B) which, in addition to mandated time frames, details pertinent statutes for each state regarding reasonable efforts, representation for parents and children, and the use of court appointed special advocates.

### Filing of Petition

Some states tie the time for filing of the petition to the hour of removal or of initial placement of the child out-of-home. Others tie the time for filing the petition to the emergency hearing, or some other pre-adjudicatory event [See Chart 3 and Chart 7, in Data Summary].

## Emergency Hearing

The emergency hearing is the first hearing held by the court following the emergency removal of a child. This removal may have been made with or without an ex parte court order. While referred to as the "emergency hearing" in most states, terminology does differ. For example, the District of Columbia refers to the "shelter care hearing," Delaware to the "probable cause hearing," Georgia to the "informal detention hearing," and Maine to the "C-1 hearing." Mandated time lines for the emergency hearing vary considerably, with some states measuring time from removal of the child and others from the filing of petition [See Chart 4 and Chart 9 in Data Summary].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> For other states where terminology differs, please see Appendix A: Master Matrix.

#### About the Statutory Analysis

What is not shown in the statutes and time lines, but which is vital to understanding the impact of the emergency hearing, is (1) how substantive this first hearing is; and (2) what occurs within a given jurisdiction between the removal and the hearing. This information has been gathered in research about actual state practice and will be included in future publications.

### Pre-Adjudicatory Conferences

Many courts provide for pre-adjudication hearing conferences and proceedings. However, only a few states have such proceedings included in statute. For example, Pennsylvania requires the agency to meet with the parents within 48 hours of removal to explain their rights and the child welfare procedure. Delaware mandates a mediation conference immediately following the filing of a non-emergency petition. Illinois has provisions for a preliminary conference without judicial involvement before a petition is filed.

### Adjudicatory Hearing

The adjudicatory hearing is the fact-finding hearing at which a determination is made about whether or not allegations of abuse or neglect are established. Many states set the time limit for holding such a hearing based upon the filing of a petition; other states establish a time limit linked to the out-of-home placement of the children in shelter care. Still other states have no set time limit specified or change the triggering event during the case progress [See Chart 5, Chart 8 and Chart 9 in Data Summary]. As with the emergency hearing, terminology differs somewhat across

the states. For example, the adjudicatory hearing is referred to as the "fact-finding hearing" in Indiana, New Jersey, New York, and Washington, as the "arraignment hearing" in Florida, the "C-2 hearing" in Maine, and the "full adversary hearing" in Texas. Nothing in the statutes indicates or mandates how detailed the adjudicatory hearing is required to be. Information about actual practice before and during these hearings will be discussed in future publications.

## Reports and Plans

The matrices discuss some of the reports required by statute, together with the time lines for providing the reports. The most common reports required by statute are pre-disposition reports, case plans, and reports of foster parents or guardians ad litem.

### Disposition Hearing

The disposition hearing is the first hearing following adjudication at which the judge makes a determination about the case plan for placement of the child and provision of services to the child and family. Many courts allow the disposition hearing to be part of the adjudicatory hearing. Other states specifically require the disposition hearing to be bifurcated from the adjudication hearing, although it may immediately follow. In many states, the time line for the disposition hearing is tied to the adjudication hearing; in other states, the deadline for holding the disposition hearing is based upon the date of removal of the child from parental custody [See Chart 6 and Chart 8 in Data Summary].

#### About the Statutory Analysis

### Court and Agency Reviews

Review hearings generally involve an overview of case progress. In many states, ongoing reviews may be held by an agency or citizen panel, with or without judicial oversight. Post-disposition reviews, permanency plan reviews, or permanency hearings typically focus on deadlines within which the final direction of the case is determined. These permanency reviews are often designated as court reviews. In examining state statutes, it was sometimes difficult to distinguish between ongoing reviews and permanency plan reviews, especially where both types of reviews are designated as court hearings. Almost all states have statutory requirements for some form of review, although there is considerable difference among states both in how many reviews are required and when reviews occur. In addition, some statutes authorize either a court review or a citizen or agency review; local practice is determinative.

### Permanency Reviews and Deadlines

This section includes any time frames or deadlines indicated in statute for judicial review of final disposition determinations. Time deadlines for these hearings, called post-disposition reviews, permanency plan reviews, or permanency hearings, typically focus on when the final disposition of a case must be determined. Some states provide merely for review upon motion of a party; others provide strict time limits within which permanency reviews must take place.

### Data Summary of Mandated Time Frames

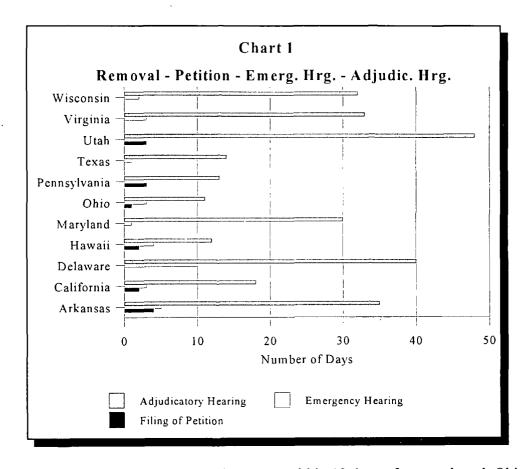
Data highlights are presented below in both narrative and graphic form. Mandated time lines are presented in accordance with the various events that occur during the processing of child abuse and neglect cases (e.g., filing of petition, emergency hearing, adjudicatory hearing). To provide some context for the presentation of data highlights, we briefly outline the various events that may be statutorily required to occur; note, however, that not all states require all events, nor do all events necessarily occur in the same temporal order in all states. Following this overview, we will present highlights from the analysis of statutorily mandated time frames.<sup>7</sup>

Although states may utilize different triggering events to set time lines for mandated procedures (i.e., one state may determine the deadline for the adjudicatory hearing based upon when the child is removed, while another state determines the deadline for the adjudicatory hearing based upon when the petition is filed), it is nevertheless instructive to compare, where possible, the passage of time from when the child is removed to the disposition hearing.

Chart 1 represents those states in which the filing of petition occurs before the emergency hearing and for which time lines from removal to adjudication can be determined. As the chart illustrates, time frames for the adjudicatory hearing, as measured from removal, vary considerably. Hawaii statutes, for example,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> For a detailed look at each state's statutory requirements, please see Appendix B.

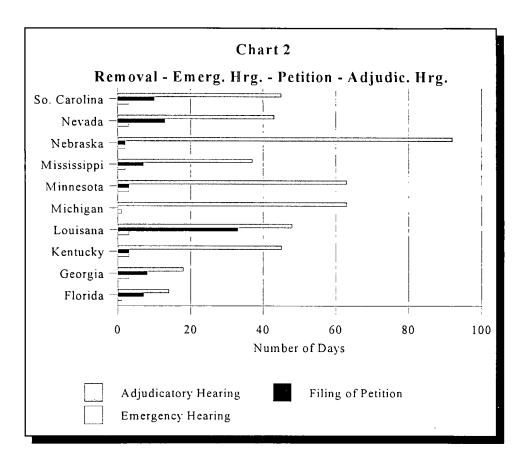
#### **Data Summary**



mandate that the adjudicatory hearing occur within 12 days of removal, and Ohio statutes require that the adjudicatory hearing occur within 11 days of removal. Utah, on other hand, requires the adjudicatory hearing to take place within 48 days of removal. Some states in Chart 1 do not have all three events (i.e. filing of petition, emergency hearing, and adjudicatory hearing) represented graphically because their statutes do not set a mandated deadline for a particular event. For these states it is still possible, however, to calculate the time to adjudication.

Chart 2 represents those states in which the emergency hearing occurs before filing of petition and for which time lines from removal to adjudication can be determined. As with Chart 1, some states may not have all three events

represented graphically because their statutes do not set a mandated deadline for a particular event. As illustrated, Florida is required by statute to hold the adjudicatory hearing 14 days from removal, while Nebraska is required to hold an adjudicatory hearing within 92 days of removal.



As mentioned previously, states utilize different trigger events to set time lines for mandated procedures. Therefore, depending upon which event triggers court involvement (e.g., removal of the child from parental custody or filing of the petition), a different set of deadlines may be operative. To facilitate comparison among states on specific mandated events, the following data summary organizes

#### **Data Summary**

states according to whether the "trigger" event is the removal of the child from the home (Group A), filing of the petition (Group B), or some combination of both (Group C).

# A. When Time Frames are Measured from Removal of the Child

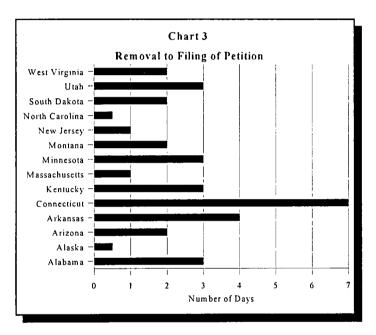
Each of the charts in this section includes states that measure time frames for mandated events according to when the child is *removed* from parental custody. Note that in some cases the occurrence of one hearing is tied to the occurrence of a prior hearing. The occurrence of the initial hearing is, however, measured from the removal of the child [See Charts 3, 4, 5, and 6].8

GROUP A				
The following states consistently measure time frames for mandated events				
from removal of the child:				
Alabama	Kentucky	South Dakota		
Alaska	Massachusetts	Texas		
Arizona	Minnesota	Utah		
Arkansas	Montana	Virginia		
Connecticut	New Jersey	West Virginia		
Indiana	North Carolina			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Those states which measure time frames from filing of petition are summarized in Section B, and those which measure some events from removal and others from the filing of petition, are summarized in Section C.

# Filing of Petition

The chart below [Chart 3] demonstrates the differences in time lines for the filing of petition when measured from the removal of the child. As depicted,



time frames for the filing of petition vary considerably. For example, Alaska and North Carolina require that a petition be filed within 12 hours of removal, while in Connecticut the petition must be filed within 7 days of removal. The most common time frames for the filing of a

petition in Group A states is 72 hours from removal (Alabama, Kentucky, Minnesota, and Utah) and 48 hours from removal (Arizona, Montana, South Dakota, and West Virginia).

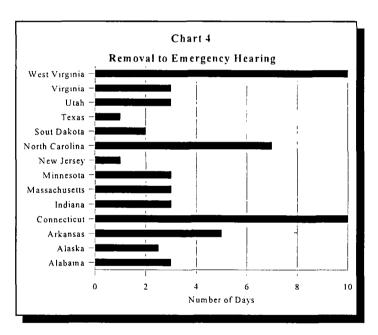
Texas requires that the petition be filed "without unnecessary delay" after the emergency removal. Indiana and Virginia do not specify when the petition is to be filed, although in both states the emergency hearing is set according to the time of removal [See Chart 4] and the adjudicatory hearing is set based upon the emergency hearing [See Chart 5].

# /

#### **Emergency Hearing**

Chart 4 depicts those states which measure the time frame for the emergency hearing from removal of the child from parental custody. Again, there is considerable variation among the states with time frames ranging from 24 hours in New Jersey and Texas to 10 days in Connecticut and West Virginia. The most common time frame for the emergency hearing is 3 days from removal.

While Arizona does not explicitly set a deadline for the emergency



hearing, its statute does require that a request for a hearing must be made within 72 hours of removal and that the hearing must be held within 5 days of the request. Kentucky statute provides two time frames for the emergency hearing; either that the

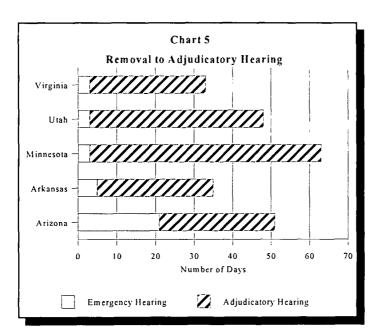
"temporary removal hearing" be held within 72 hours from the emergency order or that it be held within 10 days from filing of petition (note, however, that all other mandated events set removal of the child as the trigger event). Montana sets the deadline for the emergency hearing within 20 days of the issuance of the temporary order for protection, which may or may not occur immediately before removal.

# /

### Adjudicatory Hearing

Only Kentucky and Texas explicitly set the time frame for the adjudicatory hearing based upon removal of the child. In Kentucky the adjudicatory hearing is mandated to occur within 45 days of removal, although it can be extended if it is in the child's best interest. In Texas the "full adversary hearing" is mandated to occur within 14 days of removal.

Of the remaining states in Group A, 5 require that the adjudicatory hearing



time from the emergency hearing [Chart 5]. In these states, however, the time from removal can be calculated. For example, Minnesota, Utah, and Virginia all require that the emergency hearing take place within 3 days of removal, yet the deadline for the

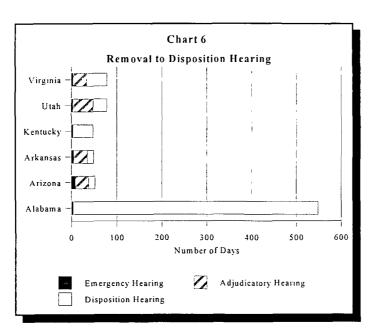
be held within a specified

adjudicatory hearing, based upon the emergency hearing, ranges from 30 days from the "preliminary hearing" in Virginia (33 days from removal), to within 45 days of the "shelter hearing" in Utah (48 days from removal), and within 60 days of the "detention hearing" in Minnesota (63 days from removal). Note, however, that in Utah a pre-trial hearing must occur within 15 days of the "shelter hearing," and that while the pre-trial hearing can be continued, the "final adjudicatory hearing" must occur within 45 days of the "shelter hearing." Indiana mandates

that the adjudicatory hearing occur "immediately after" the "initial hearing," while West Virginia requires that the adjudicatory hearing occur "as near as possible" to the previous hearing. Connecticut, Massachusetts, Montana, and New Jersey do not specify when the adjudicatory hearing is to occur.

# **✓** Disposition Hearing

Within Group A states, only 5 mandate specific time frames for the disposition hearing, and only Kentucky explicitly sets the deadline for the disposition hearing from removal (the disposition hearing is required to occur



within 45 days of removal). It should be noted that although Alabama statute requires that the disposition hearing occur within 18 months of the child's placement in foster care (approximately 545 days from removal), the statute also explicitly permits the court to proceed to disposition or termination

of parental rights immediately following the adjudicatory hearing. Arizona and Arkansas have similar time lines, with both mandating that the disposition hearing occur within 14 days of the adjudicatory hearing, that the adjudicatory hearings occur within 30 days of the emergency hearings, and that the emergency hearing

#### Time Frames Measured from Removal

is to take place within 5 (Arkansas) or 8 days (Arizona) of removal. Utah and Virginia also have similar time frames. Utah mandates that the disposition hearing take place within 30 days of the adjudicatory hearing, which takes place within 45 days of the "shelter hearing," which is held within 3 days of removal. Virginia requires that the disposition hearing take place within 75 days of the "preliminary hearing" (or 45 days of the adjudicatory hearing) which is held within 3 days of removal. Thus, in both Utah and Virginia the statutory time from removal to disposition is 78 days. While Montana mandates that the disposition hearing occur within 30 days of the adjudicatory hearing, it does not provide a time line for the adjudicatory hearing. The statute does require, however, that the date of the adjudicatory hearing be set at the filing of the petition.

Several states note that the disposition hearing is to occur immediately after the adjudicatory hearing. For example, New Jersey statute provides that the disposition hearing may occur "immediately" after the "fact finding hearing," although it can be postponed indefinitely if the case is referred to the child protective services division for annual review. South Dakota statute also provides that the disposition hearing can occur immediately after the adjudication or at a later date set at the adjudicatory hearing. The statute does clarify, however, that continuances can only be granted for up to 3 months between hearings. West Virginia statute compels the disposition hearing to occur "as soon as possible" after the previous hearing. Further, the statute authorizes termination of parental rights at the disposition hearing. Alaska, Connecticut, Indiana, Minnesota, North Carolina, and Texas do not specify any time frame for the disposition hearing.

# B. When Time Frames are Measured from the Filing of the Petition

Only Maine, Maryland, Rhode Island, and Washington consistently use filing of petition as the trigger event, although many states start with removal as a trigger event for initial events, then switch to filing of the petition as a trigger event for later events (see Group C). Of the four states in Group B, only Maryland statute mandates a deadline for the filing of petition, requiring that the petition be filed within 30 days of receipt of the complaint.

#### **GROUP B**

The following states consistently measure time frames for mandated events from filing of petition:

Maine

Rhode Island

Maryland

Washington



#### **Emergency Hearing**

In Maine the "C-1 hearing" must be held as early as possible after filing of petition and in Maryland the hearing on the petition must occur on the same day the petition is filed, although it can be extended up to 8 days for good cause. Rhode Island statute requires that the hearing on the petition take place within 7 days of the filing of petition. Washington statute, by contrast, does not give a specific time frame for the emergency hearing, although it does note that when there is no court order a hearing must occur within 72 hours.

## 1

### Adjudicatory Hearing

Washington is the only Group B state that explicitly sets a deadline for the adjudicatory hearing based upon the filing of petition, requiring that a "fact-finding hearing" on the petition be held within 75 days of the filing of the petition unless there are exceptional circumstances. In contrast, Maine requires that a "C-2 hearing" take place at the "earliest practicable time and date after the petition is filed." Maryland sets the date for the adjudicatory hearing within 60 days, unless a waiver petition is filed, in which case the adjudicatory hearing must occur within 30 days. The only time frame in Rhode Island statute for the adjudicatory hearing is that it must occur within 10 days of a request for a hearing.

# **Disposition Hearing**

In Group B, Maine is the only state that explicitly measures the time frame for the disposition hearing from filing of petition. Although Maine statutes provide that the disposition hearing can occur "as soon as possible" after the adjudicatory hearing ("C-2 hearing"), the disposition hearing must be held within 18 months from the filing of petition. Washington statute does not explicitly measure the time for the disposition hearing from filing of petition, as the disposition hearing is to occur within 14 days of the "fact-finding" hearing. This hearing is, in turn, to occur within 75 days of filing of petition. So, in Washington, the disposition hearing is to occur within 89 days of the filing of petition. Like Maine, Maryland statute also states that the disposition hearing may occur immediately after adjudication. However, Maryland requires that if a child is in custody, the disposition hearing must occur no later than 30 days from the adjudicatory hearing. Rhode Island statute does not provide a specified time frame for the disposition hearing.

# C. When Time Frames are Measured from a Combination of Trigger Events

#### Group C-1

The following states set time frames for the emergency hearing and filing of petition from removal and time frames for adjudication and disposition from filing of petition:

Colorado Mississippi Pennsylvania

Florida Nebraska South Carolina

Georgia Nevada Vermont

Louisiana North Dakota Wisconsin

Michigan

Many states utilize a combination of time frame trigger events depending upon the sequence of events. For example, some states set the time frame for the emergency hearing and the filing of petition based upon when the child is removed. However, once the petition is filed, time frames for the adjudicatory and disposition hearings are measured from the filing of petition.

In contrast, other states set the deadline for filing of petition based upon when the child was removed. But, once the petition is filed, all subsequent hearings are measured from petition.

#### **Group C-2**

The following states set time frames for filing of petition from removal and time frames for emergency, adjudicatory, and disposition hearings from filing of petition:

California

New Mexico

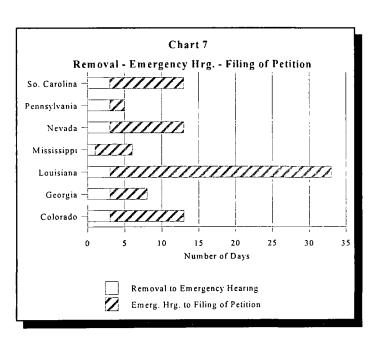
Ohio

Hawaii

New York

Other states, to be discussed shortly, use a variation of the above approaches.

Chart 7 depicts those Group C-1 states that specify the time frames of the emergency hearing and the filing of petition based upon the removal of the child. Note that none of these states explicitly requires that filing of petition must occur

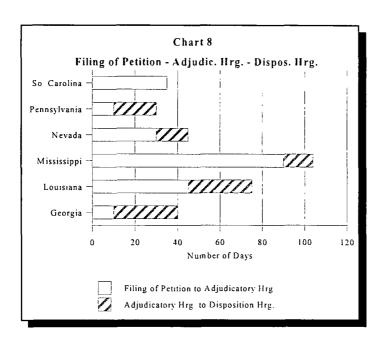


within some specified time from removal.
Rather, these states base the time frame for filing the petition on the emergency hearing, which, in turn, is based upon removal. In most cases the emergency hearing occurs within 72 hours of removal;

Mississippi being the

exception. Despite the common time frame for the emergency hearing however, there is considerable variation in filing of petition. For example, Pennsylvania requires that the petition be filed within 2 days of the emergency hearing, and

Georgia and Mississippi require that the petition be filed within 5 days of the



emergency hearing (note different time frames for emergency hearings). On the other hand, Louisiana requires that the petition be filed within 30 days of the emergency hearing. The most common time frame for the filing of petition in the C-1 Group of states is 10 days from the emergency hearing

(Colorado, Nevada, and South Carolina). North Dakota also measures the time frame for the emergency hearing and filing of petition from removal. However, while the "shelter care hearing" is required to occur within 96 hours of removal, the statute mandates that filing of petition is to be "promptly" made if the child is removed.

Chart 8 depicts these same states with respect to time frames for the adjudicatory hearing and disposition hearing as measured from the filing of petition (point 0 in the graph). Colorado is not included in the graph because the adjudicatory hearing is measured from the service of petition rather than the filing of petition. Note also that although South Carolina sets the time frame for the adjudicatory hearing from filing of petition, it does not specify a time frame for the disposition hearing. It does, however, require that the permanency plan be presented to the court within 10 days of the adjudicatory hearing.

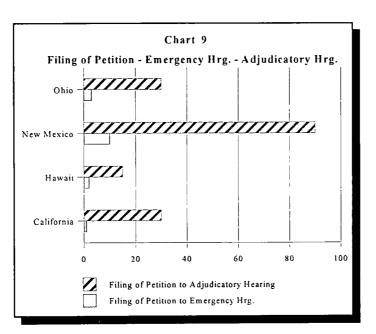
When examining Chart 8, note that although the filing of petition is set at

#### Time Frames Measured from a Combination of Trigger Events

"0" for purposes of the graph, the actual time frame for the filing of the petition differs across the states [See Chart 7]. Thus, the actual time from removal to disposition can vary substantially.

As noted previously, Group C-2 states are those which set time frames for the filing of petition from removal and time frames for the emergency hearing, adjudicatory hearing, and disposition hearing from filing of petition. California, Hawaii, and New Mexico statutes mandate that the petition be filed within 48 hours of removal, and in New York the petition must be filed within 3 days of the temporary order of custody. Ohio requires that a complaint be filed within 1 day of removal.

Chart 9 depicts times frames for the emergency hearing and the adjudicatory hearing as measured from filing of petition (point "0" in the chart).



For purposes of comparison, New Mexico is depicted as requiring the adjudicatory hearing to occur within 90 days of filing of petition. Note, however, that the statute directs the adjudicatory hearing to occur within 90 days of whichever of the following events is latest: date the petition is

served; date of order of mistrial; or date of order dispensing appeal. New Mexico statute also provides a minimum time frame for the emergency hearing, noting that it cannot occur sooner than 2 days after the petition is filed.

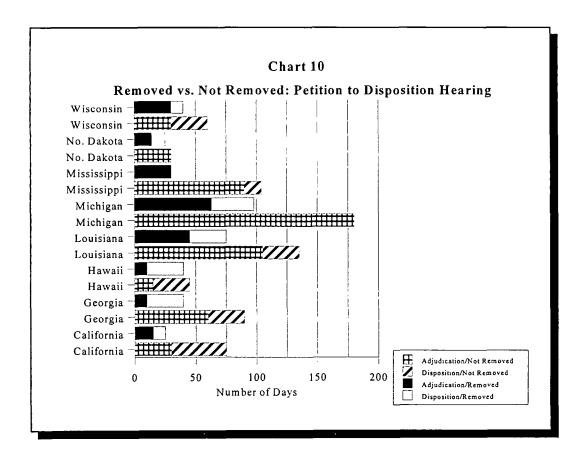
#### Time Frames Measured from a Combination of Trigger Events

Both California and Hawaii statutes mandate that the disposition hearing occur within 30 days of the adjudicatory hearing. New Mexico statutes note that the court may proceed to disposition immediately from adjudication, or at some postponed date. Likewise, New York statute also states that the court may commence the disposition hearing immediately after the "fact-finding hearing." Ohio mandates that while the disposition hearing can be held immediately following the adjudicatory hearing, the hearing must be conducted within 30 days of adjudication. Ohio statute does allow the disposition hearing to be extended up to 90 days after the complaint is filed.

A few states don't quite "fit" into any Group discussed above. For example, the District of Columbia mandates that a shelter care hearing is to occur within 24 hours of removal, that a petition be filed within 7 days of a complaint of abuse and neglect, and that an "initial appearance" take place no longer than 5 days after filing of petition. Although D.C. statute does not specify when the adjudicatory hearing is to be held (it does note that the date for the adjudicatory hearing may be set at the "initial appearance"), it does specify that the disposition hearing must be held within 45 days of the "shelter care hearing." Delaware mandates that the "probable cause hearing" (i.e., emergency hearing) occur within 10 days of removal and that the adjudicatory hearing occur within 30 days of the "probable cause hearing." It does not, however, specify a time frame for either the filing of petition or the disposition hearing. Kansas mandates that the adjudicatory hearing take place within 30 days of filing of petition, yet it does not specify a time frame for the filing of petition. It does note, however, that the emergency hearing is required to occur within 48 hours of removal.

## D. States with Dual Time Lines Depending Upon Whether Child Removed or Not Removed

A few states make statutory distinctions in the time lines for procedures when a child has been removed from the home prior to adjudication when a child has not been removed. These distinctions affect the times for adjudication, disposition, or both. California, Louisiana, and Wisconsin statutes include different time frames for the disposition hearing. Chart 10 depicts those states



which explicitly mandate different time frames when a child has been removed from the home and when a child has not been removed. For those states with a dual statutory time line, the shortest time frame from petition to adjudication for

#### Dual Time Frames: Removed or Not Removed

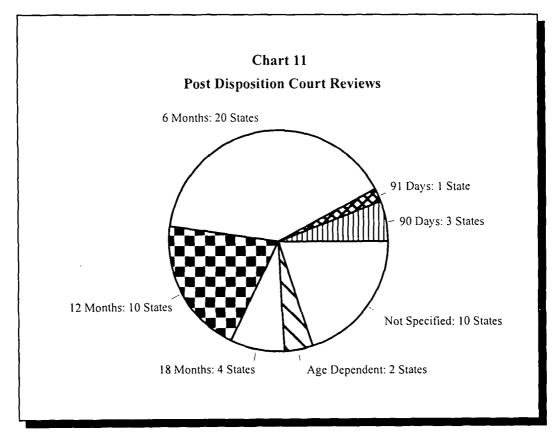
removed children is 10 days in Georgia and Hawaii; for children who have not been removed the shortest time frame to adjudication is 15 days from the filing of the petition in Hawaii. The longest time frame from the filing of the petition to adjudication for a child removed from home is 63 days in Michigan. The longest time frame to adjudication for a child who is not removed from the home is 6 months from the petition in Michigan. In states with different time lines, the earliest disposition hearing for a child removed from the home is 10 days from the adjudicatory hearing (or 25 days from petition) in California; and the earliest disposition hearing for a child who has not been removed is 30 days from the adjudicatory hearing (Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Wisconsin). Note, however, that for a child not removed from the home, Hawaii has the shortest time frame from the filing of petition, to adjudication and disposition. The longest time frame to the disposition hearing for removed children is 35 days from adjudication in Michigan. Wisconsin statutes also include an earlier "plea hearing" that takes place prior to the adjudicatory hearing, mandating that the plea hearing occur within 10 days after the filing of the petition if the child is removed and within 30 days if the child is not removed from the home.

# E. Case Reviews, Permanency Hearings, and Deadlines



### **Ongoing Court Reviews**

Most states require periodic reviews following the disposition, although there is considerable difference among states in terms of when these reviews



occur, how many reviews are required, and whether the reviews can be conducted by an agency or citizen review board. Twenty jurisdictions require a review within 6 months of the disposition hearing (Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin). Many of these states allow earlier or more frequent review hearings, but require at least one review hearing within 6 months.

Other states mandate earlier court review hearings. For example, if a child is placed out of the home, Colorado requires a court review within 90 days. In Illinois, a "preliminary conference review" must also be held within 90 days if the child is placed in the home of a close relative. Louisiana also requires a 90-day review if the child is placed out of the home; if the child is not removed, a review hearing must be held within 6 months of the disposition hearing and every 6 months thereafter until a permanency plan is before the court. Michigan requires a review hearing within 91 days of disposition and every 91 days for the first year.

0

Ten states (Alaska, Arizona, Kansas, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia) require at least annual post-disposition court reviews; although some states do allow earlier reviews. Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Montana require an 18-month court review.

Two states explicitly mandate different time frames for court reviews depending upon the age of the child. For example, in D.C. if a child is under the age of 6, a court review must be conducted every 6 months for the first 2 years. If the child is older than 6, a review must be conducted annually. In Vermont, when a child is under 3, upon motion the court may hold a review every 6 months. For children aged 3 to 6, reviews may be conducted every 12 months.

Ten states (Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Kansas, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, and Wyoming) do not explicitly specify a time line for post disposition reviews, although they may include time frames for "permanency plan review hearings" (see below).

Twenty-six states have provisions either mandating or allowing an agency or citizen review of cases. In some states (e.g., Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Nevada, Tennessee, Utah, and Wisconsin), these reviews may be substituted for ongoing court reviews. In other states (e.g., Alaska, Arizona, California, D.C., Georgia, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington), the agency or citizen reviews are in addition to the court reviews. The effect of the agency or citizen review process on the overall time a child is in out-of-home placement is not analyzed here, but will be discussed in a later publication.

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#### **Permanency Deadline**

While many states have provisions for a review of the disposition findings at 18 months, only a few states have a statutory deadline within which a determination affecting the permanent placement of a child must be made. And, even in those states, the language reflecting the deadlines is not always clear and time lines vary greatly between jurisdictions. In Connecticut, the court may only commit a child to the care of the department for a maximum of 12 months; the inference is, therefore, that a permanent plan must be in place within that time. In Maine, a final order must be made within 18 months of a filing of a petition; in cases involving heinous or abhorrent conduct, the final order must be made within 12 months of filing. New York requires the court to order the agency to proceed with a petition for termination of parental rights six months after the agency gets custody of a child under the age of one who has been abandoned by its parents. In Utah, reunification efforts continue only for 12 months from the date of initial removal; the court can order discontinuation of reunification services to the parents after six months for a child under the age of two.



### **Court Permanency Plan Reviews**

Even though they may not have a permanency deadline, many states' statutes provide for hearings to review the permanency plan for children in agency custody. In many cases, it is difficult to distinguish permanency plan review hearings from regular court reviews. Most states require that a permanency plan review occur at either 12 months (15 states) or 18 months (13 states) from disposition or placement. Maryland requires that the permanent plan be reviewed every 6 months from placement. Georgia's statute provide that the court "may at any time" conduct a review of the placement plan, while Michigan requires that a permanency plan hearing be held 364 days after disposition.

Some states require that hearings occur after a permanent plan has been decided upon and continue until termination of parental rights. For example, Florida requires that the court conduct a permanency plan hearing within 45 days after the plan is received, and Utah requires that if a child is not returned at the 12 month hearing, a "final determination hearing" must be scheduled within 120 days.

A number of states (Alabama, Delaware, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin, Wyoming) do not make explicit reference to permanency plan reviews.



### **Termination of Parental Rights**

General information was captured in this category whenever the statute indicated some time line for accomplishment of procedures toward the

termination of parental rights. Many state statutes do not mandate deadlines for the termination of parental rights, but only outline the grounds for termination and the necessary procedures. However, some state statutes allow termination of parental rights to occur at or shortly after the disposition hearing (e.g., Alabama, D.C., South Dakota, and West Virginia). Maine, however, mandates that the petition for termination of parental rights cannot be filed any earlier than 3 months after disposition.

Some states explicitly provide for judicial review of a case post-termination until a child has been adopted. Post termination review times vary from 90 days in Colorado to 18 months in Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, and North Dakota. Four states (D.C., New Hampshire, North Carolina, and Texas) require 6 month post-termination reviews, while 4 states (Alabama, Kansas, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin) require annual reviews post-termination.

# Data Summary: Other Statutory Provisions

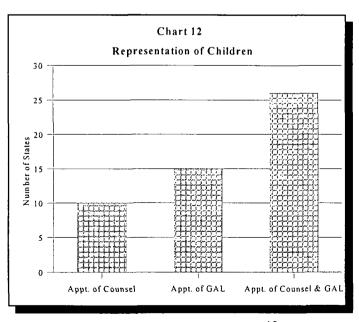


### Representation of Parents and Children

There is great variation among the states about whether any representation is provided for children by statute and about the nature of that representation. For example, representation may entail the appointment of an attorney, a guardian ad litem (GAL), or both. There is also considerable variation among states in setting the event or time at which an advocate is appointed.

Louisiana has a unique statute providing for appointment of an attorney from the Mental Health Advocacy Service if the child might be placed in a mental institution. Florida has provisions for appointment of a guardian advocate for drug dependent infants.

Chart 12 depicts the appointment of counsel for children as mandated by



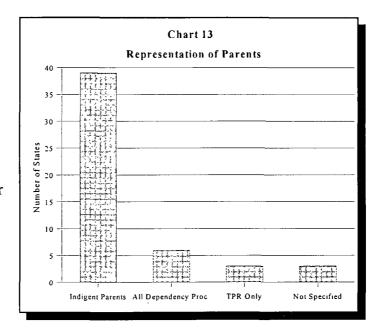
state statutes. Twentysix state statutes provide
that both counsel and a
guardian ad litem (GAL)
be appointed for children.
Depending on the
statutory provisions, this
appointment may be
mandatory or at the
discretion of the judicial
officer. Fifteen states

#### **Other Statutory Provisions**

require the appointment of at least a GAL for the child, while fewer number of states (10) specifically provide for the appointment of counsel for children in dependency proceedings.

There is also great diversity in the statutes providing for representation of a parent in dependency hearings. The appointment of a representative for parents is illustrated in Chart

13. As indicated, most state statutes provide that counsel be appointed for indigent parents. Fewer states include provisions that counsel be appointed for parents in all dependency proceedings, and some states only provide for the appointment of



counsel in termination of parental rights proceedings. It is important to note, however, that the appointment of counsel for parents in all circumstances may be mandatory or discretionary, depending on specific statutory provisions.

#### **Jury Trials**

The majority of states do not provide for jury trials in civil child abuse and neglect cases. However, at least one state, Oklahoma, allows a jury trial at the adjudicatory hearing. Other states, (e.g., Texas) provide for a jury trial at a

hearing for termination of parental rights; and in Michigan, any party may demand a jury at a trial, including the adjudication.

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### Notification of Movement of Placement

Several states have provisions that require the agency to give notice to the court and/or the parents prior to moving a child from a current placement. In West Virginia, the agency must give notice 48 hours before a move or within 48 hours of an emergency move. In Wisconsin, the agency cannot move a child until 10 days from receipt of notice of a move, unless in an emergency and such a move is authorized in the disposition order; in such a case, the agency must give notice within 48 hours of the change. Wyoming statute require 10 days notice before a change in placement. Kansas statute provide that where a child is in placement more than 6 months, 30 days notice is required unless there is an emergency. In Kentucky, the social service agency is to notify the court of a change of placement within 14 days. The District of Columbia requires 10-day notice to parents prior to a change in placement, and notice of emergency changes within 24 hours. Nebraska requires notice to the court and interested persons in most cases prior to a move.

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#### **Provisions for Kinship Care**

Several states have specific statutes defining "kinship" for purpose of preferential placement. Maryland defines kinship to include people related by blood or within five degrees of blood relationship or relationship by marriage. Oklahoma includes in its definition adults filling a parental role. In Kansas, kinship includes an adult with whom the child or parent has already formed a close emotional attachment.

#### **Other Statutory Provisions**



### Appeals

Each state has specific statutes governing appeals. Some states, however, have statutes that apply specifically in child abuse and neglect cases. In Tennessee and New Jersey, for example, cases may be appealed from the juvenile court to the circuit court for a new trial. Virginia requires appeals in these cases to be made within 10 days; appeals from a determination of parental rights must be heard within 90 days.



#### **Unique Features**

Among the interesting features within individual states are:

- Defendants in criminal abuse cases are provided immunity for their testimony in dependency cases, so as to avoid delays (New Mexico);
- Preferential consideration for relatives in the placement of children expires
   30 days after the shelter hearing (Utah);
- Foster parents are given rights in dependency proceedings (Iowa, Utah);
- Integrated service programs provide care for children with severe disabilities (Wisconsin).

Many other unique state statutes can be found by perusing the matrices in Appendix B. The statutes may present a state's response to a unique situation, or may be indicative of a broader trend toward change in the way courts and agencies are handling abuse and neglect cases. In either case, other jurisdictions will find these statutes of use in reexamining their own child welfare practices.

## Appendix A: Master Matrix of State Statutes

#### Legend adjudic. = adjudication invol. = involuntary admin. = administration mo(s). = month(s)alleg. = allegations not specified = time frames not specified a/n = abuse or neglect perm. = permanent auth. = authorized plcmt. = placement = circumstance = permanency plan circum. p/p conf. = conference prelim. = permanency plan = continued = reasonable efforts cont. reas. dept. = department = recommendation recomm. dispo. = disposition reunif. = reunification emerg. = emergency s/s/h = Saturday, Sunday, holiday eval.. = evaluation subseq. = subsequent evid. = evidence temp. = temporary = exclusion = termination of parental rights excl. t.p.r. = federal fed. tx = treatment GAL = guardian ad litem = voluntary vol. fed. = federal w/ = with GAL = guardian ad litem w/i = within = hearing wk(s) = week(s) hrg. = immediately = without immed. w/o = year(s)yr(s)

Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Petition Filed	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
AL	filed w/i 72 hrs of plcmt. in shelter care; filed w/i 14 days of complaint unless informal adjustment	w/i 72 hrs of plcmt. in foster care	not specified, but held "after filing of petition"	w/i 18 mos. of plcmt. in foster care; court may proceed immed. from adjudic. to dispo. or t.p.r.
AK	w/i 12 hrs of removal or report filed if child returned	w/i 48 hrs from notification (less than 60 hrs from removal)	at conclusion of emerg. hrg. or thereafter as the circumstances of the case may require	not specified; provisions for dispo. described; may t.p.r. at time of first hrg.
AZ	w/i 48 hrs of temp.	request must be made w/i 72 hrs and hrg. held w/i 5 days of request; written notice w/i 6 hrs to parents; no child shall remain in plcmt. for more than 3 wks. w/o court order, extensions will be reviewed at least once a week	w/i 30 days from emerg. hrg.; may be continued up to 20 days for good cause	14 days after adjudic. hrg. (may be immed.)
AR	w/i 96 hrs from emerg. removal of child	w/i 5 days of issuance of ex parte order, hrg. held	w/i 30 days from emerg. hrg.; may be cont. up to 20 days for good cause; order filed w/i 30 days	14 days after adjudic. hrg. (may be immed.); dispo. order w/i 30 days
CA	w/i 48 hrs from removal, excl. nonjudicial days	w/i 1 judicial day of filing petition; may be cont. up to 24 hrs; trial may be set w/i 10 days in lieu of hrg.	w/i 30 days of petition, unless minor in out-of-home care; in a/n case it is w/i 15 days of order of detention	dispo. may be cont. up to 10 days from adjudic. if child detained, or up to 45 days if not; if child left in home, dispo. cont. up to 6 mo.

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Reviews	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
AL	not specified; may be held upon motion	not specified	w/i 18 mos. of plcmt. in foster care	yearly review after t.p.r.; "periodic review" of efforts to achieve adoption at least yearly
AK	annual p/p review	p/p hrg. w/i 18 mos. from removal or dispo.; w/i 18 mos. from commitment to dept.	plcmt. less than 2 yrs.; may be extended 2 yrs. and an additional 1 yr. beyond age 19; 18 mos. to p/p hrg.	not specified; <i>note</i> , may terminate at first hrg.; procedures described
AZ	when child in foster care for 1 yr., dispo. review by court then additional reviews every yr.	if child placed in foster care, review annually	12 mos. after dispo. order (may cont. up to 6 mos.)	if child removed for more than 1 yr. and parent still neglects, or out of home +2 yrs., hrg. w/i 10 days of notice to parents
AR	w/i 6 mo. from dispo.; report w/i 30 days	every 6 mos. after p/p plan hrg.	12 mos.	out of home more than 12 mos.; grounds described
CA	no less frequently than every 6 mos. from dispo.	reviews no less than every 12 mos.	if child 3 or older, services not to exceed 12 mos.; if child younger than 3, services not to exceed 6 mos; may extend up to 18 mos. if substantial showing; hrg. 18 mos. from date of removal to return or to order a p/p hrg.; to be held w/i 12 days from 18 mo. hrg	if parents unable to resume custody w/i 12 mos.

	Petition Filed	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
СО	w/i 10 days of emerg. hrg.; county dept. must inform court w/i 72 hrs. upon receiving child	w/i 48 hrs if child in facility not operated by dept., or w/i 72 hrs if in custody of dept.	"earliest possible time," not to exceed 90 days after service of petition; delay if in "best interest of child"	w/i 45 days of adjudic. hrg. unless good cause; if child under 6, dispo. no later than 30 days from adjudic.
СТ	not specified; judge may issue order for immed. custody following arrest for abuse; valid for 7 days unless petition filed	w/i 10 days of order of temp. custody	not specified	may be committed for 1 yr. if found to be neglected or uncared for; 90 days prior to the expiration of the 12 mo. there must be a peition for review
D.C.	w/i 7 days after complaint of a/n	w/i 24 hrs. (excl. Sunday) of removal; initial appearance, or no longer than 5 days after petition filed; "shelter care hrg.," "initial appearance"	not specified, but court may set adjudic. hrg. at "initial appearance"	immed., or w/i 45 days of "shelter care hrg."
DE	at commencement of action when investigation shows a/n	"probable cause hrg." w/i 10 days from removal; "court mediation conf." in non-emerg.; consent to place agreement valid for 90 days	w/i 30 days of "probable cause hrg."	not specified, but may be at time of adjudic. hrg.
FL	w/i 7 days of child taken into custody	w/i 24 hrs after removal	w/i 14 days from protective custody or "as soon as practicable" after filing of petition; "arraignment hrg.;" child cannot be held longer than 21 days w/o adjudic. hrg	w/i 30 days after adjudic. hrg.; child cannot be held in shelter longer than 30 days following adjudic. unless dispo. order made

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Reviews	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
СО	if out of home, review w/i 90 days; if plcmt., or tx no longer appropriate, then hrg. w/i 5 days for further dispo.	periodic review at least every 6 mos.; as soon as possible after dispo. hrg., but w/i 3 mos. for children under 6; may be cont. up to 6 mos. if likelihood of reunif.	not specified	motion filed w/i 30 days before hrg.; court review w/i 90 days of t.p.r.; may be entered at time of first dispo. hrg.
СТ	extensions on p/p filed 90 days before p/p hrg.; may extend up to 12 mos.	dept. to file p/p w/i 60 days of 12 mo. hrg.	court may commit child to care of dept. for up to 12 mos.	t.p.r. hrg. no more than 30 days after filing of petition; t.p.r. after no less than 1 yr. from removal; petition for t.p.r. to be filed w/i 60 days of 12 mo. hrg.
D.C.	reconsideration and appeal of "shelter-care hrg." w/i 48 hrs.; dispo. review every 6 mos. for children under 6 committed to facility, for first 2 yrs.; annual review for other children	p/p reviews w/i 30 days; p/p hrg. prior to child having been in custody for 18 mos.; reviews annually for child in custody for over 3 yrs; when child in custody 18 mos., hrg. to be held to see why permanency not done	dispo. orders shall remain in force for a period not exceeding 2 yrs; extensions possible	reviewed every 6 mos. until final adoption; t.p.r. may be granted at time of dispo. hrg.; reviews every 6 mos. post termination
DE	not specified	not specified	not specified	not specified; procedures described
FL	first review w/i 6 mos. of dispo. hrg., second review at 12 mos., and then again at 18 mos.; every year if child over 13; w/i 24 hrs of a violation of time regulation, court shall conduct a review of child's plcmt.	court p/p review hrg. w/i 45 days after plan received	if at time of 18 mo. review, child is not returned, p/p shall be extended only if the court finds circumstances are extraordinary	t.p.r. petition filed no later than 3 mos. from judicial review, or at 18 mos.; "advisory hrg." w/i 14 days of petition to t.p.r.; hrg. w/i 45 days of advisory hrg.

	Petition Filed	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
GA	if child released from emerg. removal, petition filed w/i 30 days; petition filed w/i 5 days of detention hrg. if child not released	"informal detention hrg." w/i 72 hrs of protective custody	if child in custody, no later than 10 days after filing of petition; if child not in custody, hrg. w/i 60 days	immed. after adjudic. hrg., or at some postponed date; dispo. w/i 30 days of adjudic.; continuances may be given
НІ	w/i 48 hrs of temp. custody	temp. foster care hrg. w/i 48 hrs of filing of petition; w/i 4 days of removal	w/i 15 days of filing of petition or w/i 10 days if child placed in "emerg. foster care;" adjudic. hrg. w/i 10 days from pretrial conf. (if needed)	if adjudic. stipulated, dispo. hrg. w/i 10 days, unless best interests; dispo. hrg. may be held immed. after adjudic. hrg. or w/i 30 days; may cont. up to 45 days from date of original dispo.
ID	not specified; form of petition given	w/i 48 hrs excluding s/s/h of removal	w/i 30 days of filing of petition; notice given w/i 24 hrs before hrg.	not specified; hrg. described; note, appeals w/i 30 days of entry of final order
IL	not specified; defined	"temporary custody hrg." w/i 48 hrs from removal	w/i 90 days of date of service of process; motion no later than 10 days; delay allowable up to 30 days (only one continuance granted)	w/i 30 days after entry of adjudic. finding; may be continued up to 30 days for dispo. report
IN	not specified	w/i 72 hrs (excl. s/s/h)	if allegations denied, "fact-finding hrg." immed. after initial hrg. (may be cont. up to 12 mos., unless child or parent requests it, then w/i 30 days)	not specified

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
GA	initially w/i 90 days of dispo. order but no later than 6 mos. following plcmt.; periodic reviews every 6 mos. (by judge, magistrate, or citizen review panel)	court "may at any time" conduct a review of the plcmt. plan	12 mos. from dispo. order; may extend duration for not more than 2 yrs.	not specified; <i>note</i> , if t.p.r. and no adoption, court shall review annually
НІ	every 6 mos. until court's jurisdiction has terminated or court has order p/p and has set the case for p/p review hrg.	p/p review hrg. after 12 mos. (may be cont. up to 6 mos. from the date of the continuance or the case be set for a review hrg. w/i 6 mos.)	if child out of home, no later than 18 mos. or if service plan can exceed 1 yr.; court may set order to show cause for parent to show why a p/p hrg. should not be set; court shall order p/p for child w/i 3 yrs of date child first placed under foster custody	not specified
ID	not specified	not specified	dispo. decrees in effect for a period not to exceed 1 yr. from date entered; court may extend if in best interest	dept. may petition for t.p.r. after 3 mos. in custody; grounds; t.p.r. hrg. shall take place no sooner than 10 days after notice; if t.p.r. granted, review every 18 mos.
IL	"prelim. conf. review" if child is in home of close relative, court will review in 90 days; perm. reviews every 12 mos.	court review w/i 18 mos. of "shelter care order"	not specified	not specified; procedures and grounds described
IN	6 mos. after removal and every 6 mos. after (may be admin. panel); may be at any time after date of original dispo. decree, but at least every 6 mos. for first review	court hrgs. every 12 mos. after initial dispo. or removal	not specified	not specified; procedures explained

	Petition FIled	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
IA	w/i 3 days of emerg. removal w/o order; w/i 3 days of ex parte order	hrg. on temp. removal at any time after petition filed	not specified; <i>note</i> , hrg. on temp. removal may serve as adjudic. hrg.	not less than 48 hrs after social services files dispo. report (can be waived if all parties agree); dispo. can be suspended for max. 12 mos. and cont. an additional 6 mos.
KS	not specified	w/i 48 hrs excl. s/s/h after removal (may be cont. to allow 24 hr notice)	w/i 30 days from filing of petition	may be entered at time of ajudic., but shall be entered w/i 30 days unless delayed for good cause
KY	w/i 72 hrs from emerg. removal	"temp. removal hrg." w/i 72 hrs from emerg. order, excl. s/s/h, or w/i 10 days of filing of petition	w/i 45 days of removal unless extended in child's best interests	dispo. must be made w/i 45 days of removal unless extended in child's best interests
LA	if child in custody, or protective order issued, petition filed w/i 30 days of emerg. hrg. (may be extended for good cause)	if child removed, w/ or w/o court order, hrg. w/i 3 days of removal; 1 continuance for no more than 3 days for good cause	w/i 15 days of filing of petition, court can request parents to appear and respond to alleg.; if alleg. denied, court shall set adjudic. hrg. w/i 45 days of filing of petition; if child not cont. in custody, ajudic. hrg. w/i 105 days of filing of petition	may be immed. after adjudic. but must be conducted w/i 30 days from adjudic. (extended for good cause)
ME	not specified; contents defined	"C-1 Hrg." held at "earliest possible date" after filing of petition or w/i 10 days from request of protection order	at "earliest practicable time and date" after petition filed; "C-2 Hrg."	"a.s.a.p." after adjudic. hrg. and w/i 18 mos. of filing of petition

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
IA	review temp. custody order w/i 6 mos. unless dispo. hrg. held; initial review no longer than 6 mos. from date of dispo. hrg.; subsequent reviews no longer than 12 mos. from latest review	perm. hrg. after 12 mos. of original plcmt.; following an order to cont. plcmt. for additional 6 mos. court shall hold hrg.	if in foster care no longer than 12 mos., or if parents ceases to seek custody; plcmt. may be cont. up to 6 mos.	not specified; petition for t.p.r. described
KS	no later than 12 mos. after plcmt. out-of- home, yearly thereafter	not specified	max. duration of dispo. 18 mos. w/ extensions of 12 mos. at a time w/ good cause showing	not specified; note, hrg. to be held 18 mos. after t.p.r. and every 12 mos. thereafter; t.p.r. petition described
KY	not specified	annual reviews after 18 mos.; no later than 18 mos. from removal; annually thereafter	not specified	not specified; voluntary termination and involuntary termination described
LA	review hrg. 3 mos. after dispo. hrg. if child removed from home; review hrg. 6 mos. after dispo. hrg. if child not removed; hrg. every 6 mos. until p/p before court or admin. body	dispo. review every 12 mos. until child is permanently placed; dispo. remains in effect only until child reaches 18, if not earlier; w/i 12 mos. if child removed at dispo.; in no case more than 12 mos. from removal	not specified	unless abandoned, petition for t.p.r. (invol.) cannot be filed until child in custody for period of 18 mos. or longer
ME	at least once w/i 18 mos. from dispo. and every 2 yrs. thereafter; when subsequent judicial review not required, review of child in custody dept. w/i 18 mos.	at least once w/i 18 mos. and every 2 yrs. thereafter; w/i 18 mos. of final protection order, court p/p hrg. or continue reunif. efforts 6 mos.	final order to be issued w/i 18 mos. of filing of petition (unless good cause); if finding of heinous or abhorrent conduct, w/i 12 mos. of filing of petition	petition no earlier than 3 mos. after dispo.

Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Petition Filed	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
MD	w/i 30 days of receipt of complaint (if intake officer denies filing, Area Dir. may auth. filing); if child removed, a petition shall immed. be filed	hrg. on petition no later than next court day unless extended for good cause; hrg. on same day petition filed, may be postponed up to 8 days	w/i 60 days unless waiver petition filed, then 30 days after waiver hrg.; unless child in cont. shelter care, adjudic. hrg. w/i 30 days of date ordering cont. care	must be held on same day as adjudic. unless good cause; no later than 30 days from adjudic. hrg.
MA	w/i 24 hrs following temp. custody	ex parte order of removal valid for no more than 72 hrs	not specified; findings written w/i 10 days of hrg.; may be appealed	not specified; dispo. alternatives
MI	court may auth. filing of petition after prelim. hrg. upon showing of probable cause of 1 or more allegations	if child removed and parent of child found, shall immed. be brought before the court for a prelim. hrg.; hrg. must commence w/i 24 hrs after child removed (excl. s/s/h)	w/i 6 mos. of filing of petition if not in plcmt.; w/i 63 days if in plcmt. (may be postponed for specific reasons)	may immed. follow adjudic.; if child in plcmt., then w/i 35 days (extended for good cause)
MN	w/i 5 days of temp. order or protection; w/i 72 hrs of emerg. removal if in shelter care (excl. s/s/h)	w/i 72 hrs from temp. custody (excl. s/s/h); court may continue custody for 8 days (excl. s/s/h), but may continue custody every 8 days upon informal review; "detention hrg."	in certain a/n cases (physical or sex. abuse), findings must be filed w/i 15 days of hrg.; if child in custody, adjudic. hrg. w/i 60 days from detention hrg., upon request of any party; may be cont. to 90 days or longer if good cause	not specified; dispo. alternatives
MS	w/i 5 days of hrg. if child removed from home; w/i 10 days of hrg. if child not removed from home	removal not to last more than 24 hrs unless judge auth.; judge may auth. temp. removal w/i 48 hrs (excl. s/s/h)	w/i 90 days of petition (unless extended for good cause); if child in shelter, w/i 30 days (unless postponed)	may be immed. after adjudic.; if child in custody, w/i 14 days after adjudic. hrg.

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
MD	periodically, but not to exceed 18 mos.	reviews p/p every 6 mos.; if child placed in perm. foster care or kinship care, no review needed; if in long-term foster care, reviews at least every 6 mos.; 18 mos. after original plcmt., p/p hrg. w/ review every 18 mos.	perm. hrg. to review p/p plan no later than 10 mos. after dispo.; every reasonable effort shall be made to effectuate p/p for child w/i 24 mos.	if at p/p hrg., court decides to place for adoption, petition for t.p.r. to be scheduled in lieu of 6 mo. review hrg.
MA	any party may petition court for review (not more than once every 6 mos.); at least 18 mos. from dispo.	w/i 18 mos. and periodically thereafter	court shall enter final order of adjudic. and perm. dispo. w/i 15 mos. from date case first filed; may be extended for 3 mos. w/i 18 mos. of transfer of custody to dept. court to review	not specified; note, if parents consent to adoption and no home found w/i 60 days, agency must notify all foster care licensing agencies to find home
MI	review hrg. w/i 91 days after dispo. and every 91 days for first yr., every 182 days after p/p hrg. for child in foster care	hrg. w/i 182 days after p/p hrg.; every 364 days after p/p hrg. must have new first hrg.; if child remains in foster care, every 182 days	p/p hrg. w/i 364 days after dispo.	court p/p hrg. if child not returned, court shall order preparation of t.p.r. w/i 42 days unless clearly shown not in child's best interest
MN	if child in residential facility; review every 6 mos. (residential facility defined as any group home or family foster home)	after p/p decisions made, hrg. as required by fed. law, if plan is adoption every 6 mos.; if child in residential facility, p/p hrg. w/i 12 mos.	not specified	permits t.p.r. w/i yr; presumption if out- of-home more than 1 yr and no indication of reunif. possible in near future; after t.p.r. dispo. hrg. w/i 18 mos. of foster care plcmt. and every 2 yrs after
MS	annual court reviews	not specified	goal to return child to parents or to court for t.p.r. and perm. plcmt. w/i 6 mos. of the child's plcmt. in foster care	for children under 3, t.p.r. will be initiated w/ 6 mos. and perm. plcmt. w/i 2 mos.; procedures and grounds described

Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Filing Petition	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
МО	not specified	temp. protective custody not to exceed 24 hrs	not specified	w/i 18 mos. of initial plcmt.
МТ	w/i 48 hrs of emerg. plcmt.	w/i 20 days of issuance of temp. order for protection; may continue custody during investigation for 90 days with one 90 day extension	not specified, but date set when petition filed	w/i 30 days of adjudic. hrg.
NE	w/i 48 hrs from removal	w/i 48 hrs of removal (excl. nonjudicial days)	w/i 90 days from petition, unless good cause, continuances up to 6 mos.	not specified; note, no formal dispo. hrg. unless court orders plan that is different from dept. of social services, then "expedited review hrg."
NV	w/i 10 days of the protective custody hrg.	"protective custody hrg." w/i 72 hrs of removal (excl. s/s/h)	w/i 30 days of filing of petition, unless "good cause" shown	immed. following adjudic. hrg. to w/i 15 working days of adjudic.
NH	if ex parte order issued, law enforcement officer to file petition w/i 72 hrs (excl. s/s/h)	w/i 24 hrs of taking child into protective custody (excl. s/s/h); if child removed w/o court order, officer must immed. seek an ex parte order for cont. custody pending hrg.; if ex parte order issued, hrg. held w/i 10 days from date of order; hrg. not less than 24 hrs or more than 7 days after return of service of petition	w/i 30 days of filing of petition	final dispo. w/i 30 days after a finding of a/n; appeals w/i 30 days

l- ,	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
МО	once every 6 mos. from filing of petition	w/i 18 mos. of initial plcmt., post-perm. review at least every yr.	not specified; note, goal of court that the percentage of children in foster care in excess of 24 mos. shall not exceed 30% in any fiscal yr.	t.p.r. if child has been under the jurisdiction of the court for a period of 1 yr.
MT	order of temp. custody valid for 6 mos.; court to review recomm. of local citizen review brd. w/i 10 days; dispo. review hrg. w/i 18 mos. of plcmt., periodically thereafter for duration of foster care	not specified	not specifed	court review w/i 180 days of term. to determine if child perm. placed; criteria for t.p.r., including "if parent unknown for period of 90 days"; if child not returned to parent/guardian, petition court w/i 30 days of hrg.
NE	when child in foster care, court review not less than once every 6 mos. and continues through adoption	not specified	after 18 mos., county to review no more than 30 days later to see if t.p.r. appropriate	not specified; procedures and grounds described
NV	at least semiannually from dispo.	no later than 18 mos. after most recent removal of child and annually thereafter; court may dispense with annual review if child perm. placed w/relative, foster parent, or adoptive parent	not specified; note, presumption for t.p.r. if child out-of-home 18 out of the last 24 mos.	not specified; note, if child is placed out of home for 18 mos. of any 24 consecutive mos., the best interests of the child presumed served by t.p.r.
NH	"at any time" from dispo. but at least once a yr.	not specified	not specified	not specified; post t.p.r., review w/i 6 mos. from t.p.r. and reviews every 6 mos. thereafter

	Petition Filed	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
NJ	complaint filed immed. or on first court day after emerg. removal	protective custody not to exceed 3 days; hrg. to be held next court day after emerg. removal	not specified; <i>note</i> , continuances for no longer than 30 court days; "fact-finding hrg."	may occur "immediately" after "fact finding hrg.", or can be postponed indefinitely if referred to division for annual review
NM	w/i 48 hrs from removal	w/i 10 days from date petition filed; not sooner than 2 days after petition filed; "custody hrg."	w/i 90 days from the latest of (1) date petition served; (2) date order of mistrial or new trial is filed; or (3) date of order dispensing appeal	may proceed immed. from adjudic. or at a postponed hrg.
NY	if temp. order, petition to be filed w/i 3 days, or child returned if good cause	in abuse case or when child removed w/o court order, hrg. "as soon as practicable" after filing of petition; parties may move for hrg. for return of child to be held w/i 3 days of application w/o continuances	"fact-finding hrg." given priority; continuances only for good cause and must be of short duration	may commence "immediately" after "fact-finding hrg."; suspended judgment for a max. of 1 yr. unless special or extreme circum., then may extend for an additional yr.
NC	w/i 12 hrs after removal, or 24 if 12 falls on s/s/h	child cannot be held under an order for custody for more than 7 days w/o hrg.; may be continued up to 10 days with parent consent	not specified	upon receipt of "sufficient social, medical, psychiatric, psychological, and educational info"
ND	if child removed, petition is to be promptly made	"shelter care hrg." w/i 96 hrs of removal; temp. orders for custody not to exceed 30 days	no later than 30 days after petition filed; 14 days if child "in detention"; extensions for good cause	"immediately" after adjudic. hrg., or at postponed hrg.; continued for a "reasonable time"

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
NJ	not specified	first p/p hrg. at 18 mos.; successive extensions of 1 yr. allowed	not specified	not specified; grounds and procedures described
NM	w/i 6 mos. of dispo. order and every 6 mos. after, dept. to petition court for review	not specified	dispo. order giving custody to agency remains in effect for an indeterminate time not to exceed 2 yrs.; court may extend agency custody for additional 1 yr. period	not specified; grounds and procedures described; court may proceed immed. with order of adoption; such order effective 60 days to allow time for counselling
NY	not specified; note petition to extend plcmt. to be filed w/i 60 days before expiration of plcmt. period except for good cause; any interested person can petition for termination of plcmt.; if denied, petition can be renewed for 90 days	not specified; note, if child freed for adoption, petition for hrg. to be filed w/i 60 days prior to end of mo. of period of plcmt. or date of extensions; if child not in prospective adoptive home, petition w/i 6 mos. after freed	if child less than 1 and abandoned, court to proceed to t.p.r. 6 mos. after agency gets custody; if child in foster care 18 mos. or if freed for adoption and w/i 6 mos. not in prospective adoptive home, or if in prospective home and no petition for adoption, perm. w/i 12 mos.	if child freed for adoption, petition for adoption filed 60 days prior to the end of the mo. which constitutes 18 mo. period of plcmt., or date of extensions; t.p.r. 6 months after child freed for adoption if not in adoptive home; t.p.r. 12 mos.
NC	w/i 6 mos. of date or order w/ subseq. reviews at least annually; court may waive review hrgs.	annual reviews; court may waive; at least w/i 6 mos. from t.p.r. and every 6 mos. after	not specified	review of t.p.r. petition every 6 mos. until adopted; child shall be informed no more than 30 days no less than 15 days of review
ND	not specified; note, parties may petition for modification of order	not specified	dispo. order placing child in foster care valid for 18 mos; all other dispo orders valid for 2 yrs.; extension not to exceed 18 mos. from expiration of foster care order; 2 yrs. from other orders'	not specified; grounds and procedures described; note, if child not adopted w/i 18 mos. returned to court for review; child to come before court if not adopted w/i 18 mos. of t.p.r.

Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Filing of Petition	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
ОН	if child removed w/o filing a complaint, a complaint must be filed before the end of the next day	court shall hold hrg. on ex parte emerg. orders before the end of the next business day and w/i 72 hrs; hrg. w/i 72 hrs of removal	no more than 72 hrs after complaint is filed, court to set time; hrg. w/i 30 days of complaint, some extensions allowed; if child in shelter care, hrg. w/i 10 days unless continued for good cause	no later than 90 days after date complaint filed; hrg. can be held immed. or w/i 30 days of adjudic.; cont. allowed up to 90 days after date complaint filed; judgment to be made w/i 7 days
ОК	w/i 5 judicial days of protective custody; if such a petition is not filed, custody of child shall be released to child's parent or legal guardian; in all such cases a petition shall be filed w/i 30 days of child being taken into custody	hrg. w/i 24 hrs of application for emerg. medical or mental health tx; w/i 2 judicial days of removal, thereafter as required; no preadjudic. order valid for more than 30 days w/ one extension up to 60 days	no hrg. w/i 48 hrs after service of petition w/o parent consent (or w/i 5 days from mailing summons)	not specified; dispo. hrg. and order described; protective supervision order valid for 1 yr., plus extensions
OR	not specified	no child shall be held in shelter care for more than 24 hrs. (excl. s/s/h) w/o a hrg.; "shelter hrg."	hrg. w/i 24 hrs after issuance of summons; may be cont. from time to time; no jury	not specified; described
PA	w/i 48 hrs of informal hrg.; petition presented to court w/i 24 hrs or next business day when emerg. removal	"informal hrg." w/i 72 hrs of plcmt. in shelter care; conf. w/ parents/guardian if child in protective custody w/i 48 hrs.	w/i 10 days after filing of petition if child in shelter care, unless good cause up to an additional 10 days	hrg. immed. or postponed, but no more than 20 days after adjudic. if child out-of-home
RI	not specified; petition described	hrg. on ex parte petition w/i 7 days of filing	w/i 10 days of request for hrg.	not specified

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
ОН	court to hold review hrg. w/i 1 yr. of complaint or removal	court may review at any time but no later than 1 yr. after date complaint first filed, and every yr. thereafter	order for temp. care valid for no more than 1 yr. from complaint or removal unless request for extension filed; court may grant additional 6 mo. extension	petition for perm. custody hrg. w/i 120 days of filing of motion, w/ extension for good cause; court must dispose of motion and enter order w/i 200 days after motion filed
OK	at least once every 6 mos.; notice of movement w/i 1 day; no second movement w/o court hrg.; case plan to be filed w/i 30 days after child adjudic. deprived; review pre-adjudic. or pre- dispo. cases of children in out-of-home plcmt. for 90 days; hrg. w/i 45 days of the 90th day	no later than 18 mos. after plcmt. and every 12 mos. thereafter court shall hold dispo. hrg.	not specified	hrg. held w/i 10 days after receipt of notice; adoption after parental rights terminated cannot be challenged after 3 mos.
OR	court may hold a hrg. upon receipt of 6 mo. (or other) reports; court to hold hrg. w/i 30 days of request by party	not specified	not specified	when child released for adoption, agency shall file petition w/i 6 mos.; t.p.r. hrg. must be held w/i 10 days of notice;
PA	w/i 6 mos. of removal from home; second review w/i another 6 mos.; third review in another 6 mos., then every 12 mos.	not specified	not specified	not specified; grounds for termination and filing of t.p.r. petition
RI	not specified	not specified	w/i 12 mos. from plcmt. agency shall petition for dispo. hrg.; if court does not continue foster care, agency must institute t.p.r. proceedings w/i 30 days	court proceedings w/i 180 days of t.p.r. petition; at least every 12 mos.; after t.p.r., if not in adoptive home w/i 180 days, review and p/p

Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Petition Filed	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
SC	w/i 10 days of removal; initiate proceedings by end of next business day after initiating investigating of child emerg. removal	hrg. w/i 72 hrs of removal (excl. s/s/h) (may be video conference); dept. to convene family w/i 24 hrs of emerg. removal; "emerg. protective custody hrg."	hrg. must be held w/i 35 days of receipt of petition for removal; "removal hrg."	plan presented to court w/i 10 days of removal hrg.; court to hold hrg. if requested
SD	temp. custody no more than 48 hrs, excl. s/s/h w/o petition filed	"temporary custody hrg." w/i 48 hrs from temp. custody; reas. efforts finding required; judge or court designee to conduct hrg. immed. if child removed w/o court order	"advisory hrg." held before adjudic. hrg. to advise rights and receive admission or denial; if petition denied at pre-hrg., date set for adjudic.	immed. or at a later date set at adjudic.; continuances for up to 3 mos. between hrgs.
TN	if court orders temp. custody, petition must be filed w/i 2 days excl. s/s/h	"prelim. hrg." no more than w/i 72 hrs after removal excl. s/s/h (may be waived)	not specified	w/i 30 days after adjudic. hrg. for child in custody; after hrg. evid. on petition court shall make and file its findings; if court finds child is a/n it shall file written findings of fact w/i 30 days of close of hrg.
TX	petition to be filed w/i 60 days of vol. plcmt.; w/o unnecessary delay after emerg. removal	w/i 1 working day after child taken into possession; if court unavail., at least w/i 3 days	no later than 14 days after the removal of the child, "full adversary hrg."	not specified
UT	on or before the date of the "initial shelter hrg."	"shelter hrg." w/i 72 hrs after removal of a child from home	upon the filing of a petition, court shall set the pretrial hrg. w/i 15 days from shelter hrg.; "pretrial hrg." may be cont. but "final adjudic. hrg." no later than 45 days from shelter hrg.	can be same date as the adjudic. hrg., but no later than 30 days after the date of the adjudic. hrg.

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
SC	unless services are to term. earlier, review at least once every 12 mos. in protective services	if child over 14 and in perm. foster care, no reviews; if reunif. still plan, hrg. w/i 6 mos.; if t.p.r., annually after t.p.r.; in other specified cases, reviews every 6-12 mos., or upon request	not specified	not specified; consent of petition and order described
SD	review hrgs. every 6 mos.	not specified	not specified	not specified; <i>note</i> , findings may be made at dispo. review hrg.
TN	court or board to review plan at least annually	60 days from plcmt., review of plcmt. plan; review hrg. held after 18 mos. and every 12 mos. thereafter	not specified	not specified; procedures described; provisions if parents notified and fail to appear at review hrg.
TX	"initial review hrg." no later than 180th day after full adversary hrg.; subsequent review hrgs. shall be held no earlier than 5 1/2 mos. and not later than 7 mos. after the date of the last hrg.; no later than 60th day after "full adversary hrg.," "status hrg." held	not specified	not specified	not specified; note, if parental rights terminated, court shall review dept.'s efforts to place child for adoption once every 6 mos.; "Swift Adoption Teams" mandated by law, report annually to legislature; post t.p.r. reviews every 6 mos.
UT	following dispo. review hrg, "periodic" review hrgs. by court or "court-approved admin. body" w/i the dept. at least every 6 mos.	if child not returned at 12 mo. hrg., schedule final determination hrg. w/i 120 days	if child removed, reunif. efforts for max. of 12 mos. from date of removal; if child cannot be returned, p/p to be finalized; if child under 2, court may discontinue reunif. services at 6 mos.	not specified; <i>note</i> , intensive effort to place child in adoptive home w/i 30 days of t.p.r.

Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Filing of Petition	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
VT	not specified	if removed, child must be delivered to court immed. for an order of detention; w/i 48 hrs of order of removal "detention hrg."; 24 hr extension	if child in shelter care w/i 15 days from petition	may be held immed. but not later than 30 days after adjudic. finding
VA	not specified	emerg. removal order or hrg. w/i 72 hrs (excl. s/s/h), not to exceed 96 hrs; "prelim. removal hrg."	adjudic. hrg. to be set w/i 30 days of prelim. hrg.; at least 24 hrs notice	w/i 75 days of prelim. hrg.
WA	not specified; notification of petition filing described	hrg. w/i 72 hrs excl. s/s/h w/o court order; hrg. can be cont. and rescheduled for a time w/i 72 hrs of request by parent or guardian	"fact finding hrg." on petition w/i 75 days unless exceptional circumstances; parties need not appear if agreed	immed. following "fact finding hrg." or w/i 14 days for good cause
WV	if child removed, petition must be filed w/i 2 judicial days	"prelim. hrg." w/i 10 days of removal w/ court order; or w/i 5 days notice if no removal; if temp. care ordered, must end w/i 60 days; in emerg., child can be removed, CPS must "forthwith appear" before court	not specified; note, hrg. to be held as near as possible to previous hrg.; w/ respect to hrg. at the end of an imprvmt. period, hrg. to be held w/i 60 days of termination of that period	not specified, but as soon as possible after previous hrg.; may terminate parental rights at dispo.
WI	w/i 20 days after filing of intake worker's recomm.; petition must be filed before emerg. hrg. when child removed	w/i 48 hrs from protective custody excl. s/s/h	"plea hrg." held w/i 30 days from filing of petition; if child invol. removed, plea hrg. w/i 30 days of request; hrgs. may be jury trial	no more than 10 days after fact-finding hrg. if child in non-vol. custody; cannot be extended w/o hrg.; no more than 30 days for vol. custody; no later than 60th day after "full adversary hrg.," "status hrg." held

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Review	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
VT	for child under 3, upon motion court may hold review every 6 mos.; for children 3-6, review may be at 12 mos.	every yr. after 18 mos. review; to be reviewed 1 1/2 yrs. after custody initially transferred	not specified; "indeterminate period"	not specified; status conference set w/i 15 days of filing of petition for t.p.r.; grounds and procedures described
VA	foster care review hrg. to be set for w/i 6 mos. after foster care plan presented or reviewed (w/i 6 mos. of dispo. hrg.); agency must petition w/i 5 mos. of foster care plan review, court to schedule hrg. w/i 30 days	annual review; 12 mos. from dispo. hrg., except if in perm. foster care or w/i 30 days of petition; request for continuation of custody only for 6 mos.; must be w/i 12 mos. of dispo hrg.	not specified	not specified; procedures described
WA	review every 6 mos. (unless foster care review board) from date of plcmt. or date of adjudic., whichever is first; if child returned home, supervision for 6 mos.	at least every 12 mos. have a p/p hrg. unless perm. guardian, court to review every 6 mos.; every 6 mos. after p/p hrg.	perm. before 15 mos. in out of home care; for children 10 or under, p/p hrg. after 9 mos. in care and not later than 12 mos. after removal; for children over 10, hrg. after 15 mos. and before 18 mos. in care	grounds to t.p.r.; rights of parties, findings of fact, conclusions of law presented to court by prevailing party w/i 30 days of courts extension; extensions for good cause
WV	12 mos. after plcmt. agency to petition for review (hrg. in chambers)	18 mos. after 12 mo. review and every 18 mos. after	not specified	not specified
WI	parties may request modification of dispo. order; court may hold hrg. w/ 3 days notice; plan review by court or panel every 6 mos. from date of plcmt.	not specified	dispo. orders valid only for 1 yr. or less; extension orders valid for no more than 1 yr., except if t.p.r. filed or appeal taken	if child in custody for 2 yrs. or more, agency must report on whether t.p.r. petition filed; procedure, may be jury; parent may petition for rehrg. up to 1 yr., appeal w/i 30 days; post t.p.r. annual review

## Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Filing of Petition	Emergency Hrg.	Adjudicatory Hrg.	Disposition Hrg.
WY	to be filed promptly upon emerg. removal w/o court order	"shelter care hrg." w/i 72 hrs of custody w/o court order	parties may request jury trial at adjudic.; if allegations denied at first hrg., adjudic. to be set w/i 60 days	may proceed immed. or postpone for a max. of 60 days from adjudic. hrg.

### Appendix A: Master Matrix

	Court Reviews	Court P/P Reviews	Perm. Deadline	T.P.R.
WY	not specified	not specified	dispo. orders in effect for indefinite period, until child is 18 or terminated by court	procedures; right to

#### Legend adjudic. = adjudication invol. = involuntary admin. = administration = month(s)mo(s). not specified = allegations = time frames not specified alleg. a/n = abuse or neglect perm. = permanent auth. = authorized plcmt. = placement = circumstance circum. p/p = permanency plan = conference prelim. = permanency plan conf. cont. = continued reas. = reasonable efforts = recommendation dept. = department recomm. = disposition reunif. = reunification dispo. s/s/h = Saturday, Sunday, holiday = emergency emerg. = evaluation subseq. = subsequent eval.. = evidence = temporary evid. temp. = exclusion = termination of parental rights excl. t.p.r. fed. = federal = treatment tx = guardian ad litem **GAL** vol. = voluntary = with fed. = federal w/ = guardian ad litem w/i = within **GAL** = hearing = week(s) hrg. wk(s) = immediately w/o = without immed. yr(s) = year(s)

ALABAMA 1996 Supp.

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Definitions	12-15-1	"dependent child"
	26-16-2 26-16-2	abuse; neglect prevention act
	20-10-2	prevention act
Voluntary Placement	26-2A-7	parents may delegate guardian for up to 1 year but not to circumvent (12-15)
	ARJP 16	allows informal adjustment with agency including voluntary placement
Emergency Hrg.	12-15-60 26-14-6	w/i 72 hours of placement in shelter care temporary protective custody cannot exceed 72 hrs court and dept. must be notified immediately and proceedings initiated
Petition Filed	12-15-52 12-15-60 ARJP 12	contents to be filed and hearing held w/i 72 hours of placement in shelter care to be filed w/i 14 days of complaint unless informal adjustment
Adjudic. Hrg.	12-15-65 12-15-65(d)	adjudicatory hearing after filing of petition described (no times set)
Agency or Citizen Review	31-3320 CR 203 31-3801	child death review commission foster care review board to monitor all cases referred to court foster care review board reviews all children in foster care no later than every 6 months
	31-3810 29-9003(5) 31-3801 31-9003	may also be internal administrative review of all other foster children agency responsible to review plan every 6 months foster care review board system agency case review system
Court Reviews	12-15-74	reviews may be held upon motion (no times set)
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	12-15-62(c)	w/i 18 months of placement in foster care
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen	26-16-50; 51 26-16-52	multidisciplinary child protection teams; duties ad hoc child abuse protection team (reviews performance of
Review	26-14-7-1	multidisciplinary child protection teams; no times set) allegations against certified caretaker to go to investigative hearing

Reports, Plans	12-15-69 12-15-71(h) 12-15-71 26-14-7	predisposition report may be required by court after petition filed facilitation team report due w/i 21 days after petition filed team to prepare final plan investigatory report with recommendations of dept. must be "made available to the court" (no times set)
Atty/GAL for Children	26-14-11 12-15-8 12-15-63(b) 12-15-71(h)	attorney appointed for child in judicial proceedings court may appoint; must appoint when no natural or adoptive parent in position to exercise effective guardianship (1975) attorney appointed if adverse interests or where parent is a minor may appoint GAL for multi-needs child
Attorney for Parent	12-15-60(c) 12-15-63	counsel shall be appointed "as required" counsel shall be appointed if financial reasons
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	26-18-9 26-18-7 26-18-9 26-10A 12-15-65(f)	court reviews yearly after t.p.r. grounds; procedures "periodic review" of efforts to achieve adoption at least yearly adoptions (no times set) court can proceed immediately from adjudication to t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

## ALASKA 1996

D-6-:4:	47 17 200	aluna madat	
Definitions	47.17.290	abuse; neglect	
Voluntary Placement	47.14.100(c)	described; voluntary placements under 6 months	
Emergency Hrg.	47.10.030 47.10.142	provides procedure, including notice of potential t.p.r. emergency and temporary placement hearing described; within 48 hours from notification (less than 60 hours from removal) hearing must be held	
Petition Filed	47.10.020 47.10.070 47.10.142	described; court may order filing hearing on petition may be informal petition to be filed w/i 12 hours of removal or report filed if child returned	
Adjudic. Hrg.	47.10.070 47.10.080(a)	provisions for hearing; may be informal at conclusion of hearing or thereafter as the circumstances of the case may require	
Dispo. Hrg.	47.10.080(c) 47.10.080(c)(3)	provisions for disposition (no time set) may terminate parents' rights at time of first hearing	
Court Reviews	47.10.080(f) 47.10.080(l) 47.10.142	annual permanency plan review p/p hearing w/i 18 months from removal or disposition w/i 18 months from commitment to department	
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	may be substituted for citizen review (see below)		
Permanency Deadline	47.10.080(c) 47.10.080(l)	placement less than two years; may be extended two years and an additional one year beyond age 19 18 months to p/p hearing	
Agency or Citizen Review	47.10.142(g) 47.14.200	notice to citizen out-of-home care review panel less than 60 days from removal notify parties of review panel w/i 60 days of emergency hearing or payment citizen review panels for permanency planning local panel reviews cases w/i 180 days of removal and every 6 months	
Reports, Plans	47.10.081 47.14.204(g)	predisposition hearing reports from social workers 10 days before disposition hearing local panel advisory report w/i 30 days of review to all parties	

Atty/GAL for Children	47.17.050 may appoint attorney or attorney to serve as GAL 44.21.410(a)(5)office of public advocacy to provide representation in certain circumstances		
Attorney for Parent	18.85.100 public defender agency represents people entitled to representation under court's Child in Need of Aid Rules		
CASA	44.21.410(a)(6)office of public advocacy to provide representation in certain circumstances		
T.P.R. and Adoptions	47.10.080(c)(3)procedure to t.p.r. based on report of "reasonable efforts"  (reasonable efforts not described); may terminate at first hearing; annual review to report on efforts to find permanent home  25.23.180 grounds for t.p.r./adoption		
Reasonable Efforts	Court rule only		

## ARIZONA 1996

8-531 8-546	definition for t.p.r. of abandonment and abuse definitions for protective services abandoned; abused; dependent child
8-515 8-546.05	cannot remain in receiving foster home more than 3 weeks without court order - extensions to be reviewed every week voluntary placement should not exceed 90 days and not more than 2 consecutive periods within 24 mos. unless petition filed
8-223 8-515 8-546.06	temporary custody described; written notice within 6 hours to parents; parents may request hearing on temporary custody award without a court order, no child shall remain in a placement for more than 3 wks; extensions will be reviewed at least once/week review of temporary custody hearing; request must be made within 72 hrs and hearing held within 5 days of request
8-223	petition to be filed within 48 hours of temporary custody
8-223	hearing to be set no more than 21 days from petition
not specified	
8-515	when child has remained in foster care for 1 year, the court shall review the disposition order for that child and conduct additional reviews once every year
8-515(c)	if child permanently placed in foster care, review annually
8-515(c)	12 months after disposition order (may continue up to 6 months)
8-515.01 8-515.03 8-515.04 8-546.10	local review care review boards assist court in review of cases duties of local review boards; shall review once every 6 mos. (incl. time in vol. placement); security review team to review each removal within 48 hours to assess service points state review board mediation program to mediate problems between parents and social services
	8-546  8-515  8-546.05  8-223  8-515  8-546.06  8-223  not specified  8-515  8-515(c)  8-515(c)  8-515.01  8-515.03

Reports, Plans	8-511 8-511(c) 8-515.03 8-536 8-546.01	appropriate plan for perm. placement to be given to court after initial placement hearing or before initial hearing permanent plan to court less than 30 days after finding of dependency report by foster care review board to court within 30 days of review social study report must be submitted before t.p.r. hearing report of protective services workers must be made 48 hrs before dependency hearing or 21 days after petition filed
Atty/GAL for Children	8-522 8-225 8-535	court may appoint an adult as GAL (from S. Ct Pool) child has right to counsel; court shall appoint if indigent county attorney may intervene to represent child in t.p.r.
Attorney for Parent	8-225 8-535	appointment of counsel for parents for dependency hearings if indigent t.p.r. cases, court shall appoint a GAL for parent
CASA	8-522 8-523	S. Ct. shall certify special advocates CASA program established in administrative office of the supreme court (1991)
T.P.R. & Adoption	8-531 8-533 8-535	definitions procedure for filing either child has been removed from home for 1 year and parent still neglects child, or child has been out of home for a total of 2 years and parent has not remedied circumstances then t.p.r. proceedings initiated hearing must take place within 10 days of notice to parents
Reasonable Efforts	not specified in rule or statute	

## ARKANSAS 1997 Supp.\*

Definitions	12-12-503 9-27-303(12) 9-27-303(4) 9-27-303(23) 9-27-303(32) 9-27-303(31) 9-27-303(33)	abuse; neglect; abandonment neglect; dependency abuse neglect sexual abuse reasonable efforts sexual exploitation
Voluntary Placement	9-27-340	voluntary relinquishment of custody not to exceed 6 months
Emergency Hrg.	12-12-509 12-12-516 9-27-315(a)	investigation begins within 72 hrs of report if severe maltreatment, investigation shall begin within 24 hrs determination made within 30 days protective custody shall not exceed 72 hrs w/i 5 days of issuance of ex parte order, hearing held
Petition Filed	9-27-310 9-27-313(f)	described petition to adjudicate must be filed w/i 96 hours from emergency
Adjudic. Hrg.	9-27-315(d) 9-27-328	30 days from emergency hearing; may be continued up to 20 days for good cause hearing procedure described; findings w/i 30 days of hearing or prior to next hearing, whichever is earlier
Dispo. Hrg.	9-27-329 9-27-329	14 days after adjudicatory hearing (may be immediate) disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	9-27-337	w/i 6 mos. after original placement and every 6 mos. thereafter
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	9-27-338	12 mos. after entering out-of-home placement, court to hold p/p hearing
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	not specified	

Reports, Plans	12-12-514 12-12-515 9-27-355a 9-27-337(f) 9-27-338(e) Section 8 of Ac	dept. must make investigation report available within 30 days dept. has 10 days to notify parties of investigation determination written case plan w/i 30 days of placement 6 month report permanency plan et 1227 of 1997 court case plan to court 30 days following petition or out-of-home placement, whichever sooner
Atty/GAL for Children	9-27-316(a) 9-27-316(e)	entitled to attorney in families in need cases GAL shall be appointed
Attorney for Parent	9-27-316(f)	counsel to be appointed if indigent
CASA	None	
T.P.R. & Adoption	9-27-341 9-9-102 et seq.	grounds for t.p.r. (including dependency, neglect; out of home for 12 months)  Adoption Code
Reasonable Efforts	9-27-338 9-27-303(31)	services prior to removal under emergency reasonable efforts

<sup>\*</sup>A.C.A 12-12-907 et seq. (Child Maltreatment Act); A.C.A. 9-27-301 et seq. (Juvenile Code)

**CALIFORNIA**1997 Welfare and Institutions Code

Definitions	300	shuse medicat shandonment (implied in Code)
Definitions	300	abuse, neglect, abandonment (implied in Code)
Voluntary Placement	360 16607.3	court may order guardianship with parent and minor consent placement limited to 6 months; may be extended another 6 months under certain circumstances
Emergency Hrg.	307 315 319 321	peace officer may set hearing before probation officer must be held w/i 1 judicial day of filing of petition hearing described may be continued up to 24 hours; a trial may be set w/i 10 days in lieu of hearing
Petition Filed	311 313 332	probation officer to immediately file if he decides to retain minor in custody petition must be filed w/i 48 hours of removal, excl. non-judicial days contents
Adjudic. Hrg.	334 345 352(b) 387	w/i 30 days of petition, unless minor in out-of-home care; in abuse/neglect case it is w/i 15 days of order of detention given priority on calendar if child in custody no continuance if minor in custody which would result in disposition to exceed 60 days must be set 30 days from filing of petition
Dispo. Hrg.	358 361.5 364	disposition may be continued up to 10 days from adjudication if child detained, or up to 45 if not disposition alternatives if child is left in home, disposition continued up to 6 months
Court Reviews	366 366.21	no less frequently than every 6 months from disposition review proceedings
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	366.25	no later than 12 months from disposition hearing and in no case more than 18 months from removal
Permanency Deadline	361.25	if child 3 or older, services not to exceed 12 months; if child younger than 3, services not to exceed 6 months; may extend up to 18 months if substantial showing (sunset jan 1, 1999; new provision already enacted) hearing 18 months from date of removal to return or to order a permanency plan hearing to be held w/i 120 days from 18 month
	366.25	hearing no later than 12 months from disposition hearing and in no case more than 18 months from removal

Agency or Citizen Review	16503	agency review no less than once every 6 month
Reports, Plans	358.1 358 366.1 366.21	reports for disposition hearing contents disposition hearing case plan required court review report contents report required for review (sunset 1999; new provision)
Atty/GAL for Children	317(c) 317(e) 326	court shall appoint counsel if court believes minor will benefit duties social worker to serve as GAL unless court appoints another adult
Attorney for Parent	317	court may appoint if indigent; and shall appoint if child is to be placed in out-of-home care
CASA	356.5 Rules of Court	child advocates, formed under CASA guidelines, may be appointed as GAL 1424: Guidelines for CASA
T.P.R. and Adoption	361 366.26	parental rights may be terminated permanently if parents are unable to resume custody within 12 months proceeding

## COLORADO

1996 Supp.

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Definitions	19-1-103 19-3-102	abuse, neglect neglected child defined
Voluntary Placement	19-3-50(5) 19-3-701	court may continued adjudicatory hearing to allow child to remain in home or out-of-home with consent of parties; no longer than 6 months with a possible extension of 6 months review of voluntary placement within 90 days; involves use of public funds
Emergency Hrg.	19-3-403 19-3-403(3a)	hearing w/i 48 hours if child in facility not operated by department, or w/i 72 hours if in custody of department temporary protective custody not to exceed 72 hours
Petition Filed	19-3-502 19-3-312	contents county dept. must inform court within 72 hrs upon receiving child; petition filed w/i 10 days of emergency hearing
Adjudic. Hrg.	19-3-505	must be held within "earliest possible time" but not to exceed 90 days after service of petition delay granted in "best interests of the child"; when allegations of abuse of child under 6, adjudicatory hearing w/i 60 days
Dispo. Hrg.	19-3-505(7b) 19-3-507 19-3-508	should be held right after adjudicatory hearing or may be continued up to 30 days described disposition must be entered w/i 45 days of adjudication unless good cause; if child under 6 and victim of abuse, disposition, no later than 30 days from adjudication
Court Reviews	19-3-507(4) 19-3-508(d) (n)	if disposition out-of-home but not committed to department, review w/i 90 days of disposition if placement or treatment no longer appropriate, then hearing must be held w/i 5 days for further disposition
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	19-3-606 19-3-702(6)(7) 19-1-115(4c) 19-3-702	court to review case w/i 90 days of t.p.r. periodic review at least every 6 months review every 6 months as soon as possible after disposition hearing, but w/i 18 months of original placement; with child under 6 and child who is victim of abuse, in certain counties, 3 months after decree of adoption
Permanency Deadline	not specified	

Agency or Citizen Review	19-3-308 19-3-702(6)	child protection teams to review public and private agency response to abuse and neglect allegations periodic review post permanency plan may be administrative review conducted by department if agreement
Reports, Plans	19-3-209 19-3-402(4) 19-3-606 19-3-508(II)	individual case plan required (no times set) officer to file report with court upon emergency removal of child GAL report post t.p.r. "appropriate treatment plans" described (no times set)
Atty/GAL for Children	19-3-203 19-3-602	GAL appointed an attorney GAL shall be appointed in t.p.r.
Attorney for Parent	19-3-202 19-3-602(2) 19-3-607	parent may seek appointment if indigent in t.p.r. cases, counsel appointed no right to a jury trial indigent parent has right to one appointment of expert witness
CASA	19-1-111.5 19-1-202,202	court may appoint; GAL and CASA to collaborate establishment of CASA
T.P.R. and Adoption	19-3-502-508 19-3-508(3) 19-3-601 19-3-602 19-3-604 19-3-605 19-3-606 19-5-104 19-5-105 19-5(chp.2)	procedures t.p.r. may be entered at time of first disposition hearing procedure; no jury trial motion filed at least 30 days before hearing basis for termination request for placement with family members court review w/i 90 days of t.p.r. final order of relinquishment proceedings to t.p.r. adoption
Reasonable Efforts	19-3-208	services required to be provided

## CONNECTICUT

1996 Supp.

Definition	46b-120	ahyaadi maalaatad
Denuition	400-120	abused; neglected
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg.	46b-129(c)	hearing w/i 10 days of order of temporary custody
Petition Filed	17a-105 46b-129	judge may issue order for immediate custody of child following arrest for abuse; order valid for 7 days unless petition filed who may file for removal
Adjudic. Hrg.	not specified	
Dispo. Hrg.	46b-129	may be committed for period of 1 yr if found to be neglected or uncared for 90 days after 12 mos., there must be a petition for review
Court Reviews	46b-129 sub(e)	extensions on permanency plan filed 90 days before permanency plan hearing (may extend up to 12 months)
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	17a-110	department to file permanency plan w/i 60 days of 12 months hearing; court to promptly set hearing
Permanency Deadline	46b-129 46b-129(e) 46b-129(e) 17a-110	court may commit child to care of department for up to 12 months petition on permanent plan; an extension to be filed 90 days before permanency planning hearing; may extend up to 12 months department to file permanency plan w/i 60 days of hearing if findings of no further efforts permanency plan (deadline not specified)
Agency or Citizen Review	17a-106(a)	multidisciplinary teams to review certain cases to assess (no times set)
Reports, Plans	17a-110 17a-112(i) 45a-717	permanency plan definition; duties after t.p.r., statutory parent or child's guardian to file report with court w/i 90 days and then every 6 months agency has 90 days to submit report to t.p.r. hearing

Atty/GAL for Children	17a-101 46b-129(a) 46b-136	child shall be represented by counsel during proceedings and appointed a GAL court shall appoint counsel and shall appoint GAL also when requested appointment of attorney for child at discretion of judge, parent, or
Attour ou for	16h 125(h)	guardian
Attorney for Parent	46b-135(b)	parents have right to counsel if indigent, will be appointed
CASA	Sec. 51-10(b) of CGS establishment, duties	
T.P.R. and Adoption	17a-112 45a-716 45a-717 46b-129(c)	t.p.r. child committed to petitioner where t.p.r. granted G.A.L. has 90 days to report a case plan for at least 12 mos. thereafter, dept. shall review plan and make report to court after the report the court shall review plan at least once per year until child is adopted t.p.r. hearing shall be held no longer than 30 days after filing petition conduct of hearing t.p.r. after no less than one year removal petition for t.p.r. to be filed w/i 60 days of 12 month hearing when finding of no further efforts required (if no other permanency plan filed)
Reasonable Efforts	46(b)-129(e) 45(a)-717(i)	reasonable efforts determination reasonable effort determination

D.C. 1997 Supp. Superior Court Rules Governing Neglect Proceedings (SCR-Neglect)

Definitions	6-2101 16-2301(9) 22-901	abused neglected child; abused child "child in need of service"
Voluntary Placement	16-2314	consent decree after petition up to 6 months with extension of 6 months
Emergency Hrg. or "Shelter Care Hrg." or "Initial Appearance"	16-2313(1) 16-2308 SCR 12	held w/i 1 day (excl. s/s/h) of removal (with probable cause fact-finding) initial appearance no longer than 5 days after petition filed (probable cause hearing) 5 day continuance may be granted
Petition Filed	16-2305(d) 16-2312(a) SCR 10	petition must be filed within 7 weekdays after complaint if child removed, petition to be filed at or before emergency hearing petition described
Adjudic. Hrg. or "Fact- finding Hearing"	16-2308 16-2317 16-2320 SCR 16	court may set adjudicatory hearing at "initial appearance" described possible dispositions described
Dispo. Hrg.	16-2317 SCR 16(d) 16-2320	after notice, court to proceed with disposition hearing; may postpone to await reports court may hold disposition hearing immediately after adjudication, or w/i 45 days, unless circumstances require otherwise possible dispositions
Court Reviews	SCR 13;20 SCR 22 16-2323	reconsideration and appeal of shelter care w/i 48 hrs disposition review every 6 months for children under 6 committed to facility or institution or other children so committed, for first 2 years; annual review for other children
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	16-2320 SCR 22 SCR 23(f) SCR 26 SCR 22(f)	permanency plan reviews w/i 30 days permanency plan hearing prior to the child having been in custody for 18 mos. a review hearing to determine why child has not been returned, t.p.r has not commenced, or petition for adoption not filed determination shall be made annually for children who remain in custody for 3 yrs or more annual hearing on permanency plan for children in custody for 3 years or more reviews every 6 months post termination when child in custody of department 18 months, hearing to be held to see why permanency not accomplished

Permanency Deadline	16-2322	dispositional orders shall remain in force for a period not exceeding 2 yrs extensions possible
Agency or Citizen Review	16-2323	agency review every 6 mos.
Reports, Plans	6-2107 16-2319 16-2323	social services must file report of investigation with court 5 days before shelter care hearing predisposition study and report (no times set) social services has 10 days to file report before a review hearing
Atty/GAL for Children	SCR 27	attorney shall be appointed to be GAL for child
Attorney for Parent	16-2304 SCR 27	court shall appoint if parent indigent if indigent shall appoint; may appoint anyway and force parent to pay
CASA Vols.	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	SCR 25 SCR 26 16-2320(6)	t.p.r procedures review every 6 mos. until final adoption t.p.r. may be granted at time of disposition hearing
Reasonable Efforts	6-2107 outline	ed; submitted to court 5 days before adjudicatory hearing

## **DELAWARE**

## 1996 Supp.

1997 Vol. Family Court Civil Procedure Rules

Definitions	16-902 child a 31-301 depen 11-1101	abuse; neglect dent child; neglected child abuse, neglect, dependency (also defined 29-9001, 31-3602)
Voluntary Placement	CR 201	"consent to placement agreements" valid for 90 days
Emergency Hrg. or "Probable Cause Hrg."	CR 200 CR 201 CR 202	emergency removal without consent of court "promptly" read petition and granting of custody to child protective services "court mediation conference" in allegations of neglect or abuse in non-emergencies; "consent to place agreement valid for 90 days"; not in cases of emergency removal emergency removal with probable cause, hearing within 10 days before a judge; if probable cause, child protective services must file a service and treatment plan 15 days after probable cause hearing
Petition	16-905 CR 3(a) 13-906 31-3607	petition to be filed when investigation shows abuse/neglect commencement of action contents of adoption petition CASA may petition
Adjudic. Hrg.	CR 203	within 30 days of probable cause hearing
Dispo. Hrg.	CR 203 10-1009	may be at time of adjudicatory hearing disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	not specified	
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	31-3818	not specified; plan to be prepared

Agency or Citizen Review	31-3320 CR 203 31-3801 31-3810 29-9003(5) 31-3801 31-9003	child death review commission foster care review board to monitor all cases referred to court foster care review board reviews all children in foster care no later than every 6 months may also be internal administrative review of all other foster children agency responsible to review plan every 6 months foster care review board system agency case review system
Reports, Plans	CR 202 29-9003(4) 31-3606	if probable cause, child protective services must file a service and treatment plan 15 days after probable cause hearing agency plans (no times set) CASA reports
Atty/GAL for Children	31-3601	CASA may be appointed; CASA is GAL with attorney representation
Attorney for Parent	CR 204	attorney for parent may be appointed if indigent
CASA Vols.	CR 205 31-3601-3613	CASA may be appointed; purpose, definition, composition, duties, rights purpose, definition, duties, rights, liability
T.P.R. and Adoption	CR111 13-901-956 13-111-1114	hearing must be private and confidential adoption procedures t.p.r. grounds and procedures (no times set)
Reasonable Efforts	CR 200	must be made to prevent or eliminate need for removal

**FLORIDA** 1997 Supp.

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Definitions	39.01 415.503	abandoned; abused; neglected abused and neglected child
Voluntary Placement	39.453(3a) 30.453(f) 415.505(1)(d)	review of voluntary placement without court notification for 30 days unless second voluntary placement in 12 months, otherwise notify court authorizes voluntary agreements for services or placement
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Emergency Hrg.	39.4055 39.404	next day emergency hearing no child shall be held in custody for longer than 24 hours without an order; no child shall be held in a shelter for longer than 21 days without an order of adjudication
	30.401	hearing within 24 hours of removal
Petition Filed	39.402(8) 39.404	petition to be filed within 7 days after child taken into custody within 7 days from removal or within reasonable time of investigation
	415.506	petition to be filed if child in protective custody more than 24 hours
Adjudic. Hrg.	39.402(8)	within 14 days of custody, or "as soon as practicable" after filing of petition, "arraignment hearing" must be held (parents can consent to or deny dependency)cannot be held longer than 21 days without an adjudicatory hearing adjudicatory hearing must be entered within 21 days after emergency order of placement in shelter care; "arraignment hearing" within 14 days after child taken into custody with adjudicatory hearing within 7 days of arraignment
Dispo. Hrg.	39.402(9) 39.41	must be held within 30 days of adjudication for child in shelter care (with some delays and continuances granted) disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	39.41	court jurisdiction over case of abuse or neglect ends if child returns to parentsfor 6 months (also 39.453)
	39.402	within 24 hrs. of violation of a time regulation, court shall conduct a review of child's placement
	39.453	within 6 mos., first review conducted, second review at 12 mos., and then again at 18 mos. (every 6 mos., the court reviews the case if the child is under 13, every year if child is over 13).
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	39.402 see court revie	court review within 45 days after plan received review defined ws

Permanency Deadline	39.453	if, at the time of the 18 mo. review, the child is not returned to custody of parents, permanent plan shall be extended only if the court finds that the circumstances are extraordinary and the plan should be extended
Agency or Citizen Review	39.453 39.453 39.4531 39.453(3)(d)	agency must file petition for removal 10 days before the scheduled judicial review hearing citizen review described citizen review panels administrative reviews may be substituted for court reviews except for first one and annual one
Reports, Plans	39.4031 39.453(3)(e) 39.451 39.452	case plan predisposition report to all parties 48 hours before disposition hearing case plan for child in foster care within 30 days of removal permanent placement plan defined; within 30 days of placement, plan reported; extensions allowable, but not to exceed 30 days
Atty/GAL for Children	40.402(7) 415.508	court to appoint GAL at emergency hearing unless it finds unnecessary appointment of GAL for children "at the earliest possible time"
Attorney for Parent	39.40(1) 39.463 39.465	if unable to afford counsel and threatened with criminal charges based on conduct or with permanent loss of childrenmust have appointment advise re: right to counsel in t.p.r. cases at each stage of the proceeding under t.p.r. cases, court shall advise parent/guardian of right to counsel
CASA	415.5082 415.5084-5089	"Guardian Advocates"; provisions for appointment of a guardian advocate to oversee needs of drug dependent duties, responsibilities
T.P.R. Adoption	39.454 39.464(2) 39.466 39.467 39.469	petition to t.p.r. filed no later than 3 mos. from judicial review hearing if agency initiated, or at 18 mos. petition to t.p.r. may be filed simultaneously with petition for dependency advisory hearing within 14 days of petition to t.p.r. adjudicatory t.p.r hearing within 45 days of advisory hearing disposition hearing t.p.r predisposition report to parents/guardians within 48 hrs. prior to disposition hearing
Reasonable Efforts	39.01 39.41(3d)	definition "diligent efforts" when dept. has made reasonable efforts

# **GEORGIA** 1997 Supp.

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Definitions	19-14-2 19-15-1,2 19-15-1 15-11-2	abuse; neglect deprived child abused child deprived child
Voluntary Placement	15-11-14	informal adjustment for up to 3 months from petition
Emergency Hrg.	15-11-21(3)	if child taken into custody, an "informal detention hearing" shall take place not later than 72 hrs.
Petition Filed	15-11-21(b) 12-11-21(e) 15-11-25	if child released from emergency removal, petition to be filed w/i 30 days petition filed w/i 5 days of detention hearing if child not released contents of petition
Adjudic. Hrg.	15-11-26	after petition filed, court shall fix time for hearing; if child is in custody, hearing shall take place no later than 10 days after filing of petition; if child is not in custody hearing w/i 60 days
Dispo. Hrg.	15-11-33 15-11-34	immediately after adjudicatory hearing or at a postponed hearing; if in custody, disposition w/i 30 days of adjudication; continuance may be given possible dispositions
Court Reviews	15-11-41(j) 15-11-34 15-11-34(d)	w/i 90 days of first disposition order but no later than 6 months from placement (by judge, magistrate, or citizen review panel); periodic reviews every 6 months court may at any time conduct a review of the placement plan all cases shall be initially reviewed within 90 days of entering the dispositional order but no later than 6 mos. following the child's placement, and shall be conducted by juvenile court judge, or properly designated referee or judge pro tempere, or by judicial citizen review panel; additional periodic reviews shall be held every 6 mos.
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	15-11-90 15-11-90(d)	court may "at any time" conduct a review of the plcmt. plan if t.p.r. and no adoption, court shall review annually
Permanency Deadline	15-11-41 15-11-41(e) 15-11-41(f)	disposition placing child in foster care is valid for 12 months may be extended up to 2 years court which made disposition order may extend its duration for not more than 2 yrs

Agonorion	15-11-34	aitigan rayian panal submits recommendations to the saurt assess
Agency or Citizen	15-11-54	citizen review panel submits recommendations to the court re: case plan
Review	15-11-34(d)	citizen review panels may conduct reviews of cases in lieu of court
		(no times set)
	19-15-3 15-11-41(j)	child death review committee if review by citizen review panel, report to court w/i 5 days (either
	13-11-41()	party can object)
Reports, Plans	15-11-32	social study and report must be received by court prior to hearing on need for shelter and disposition
rians	15-11-41	w/i 30 days of the date of removal of the child from the home dept. shall include a case plan for reunification of the family; plan described
	15-11-41	if review is conducted by citizen review panel, panel's recommendations must be submitted to court, parents, agency, guardian w/i 5 days of review any party may request a hearing on the plan w/i 5 days of receiving the review
Atty/GAL for Children	15-11-85	in any proceeding to t.p.r., court shall appoint an attorney to represent child and may appoint a separate GAL or a GAL who may be same person as attorney
Attorney for Parent	15-11-30	right to counsel; indigent person defined; counsel appointed if parent indigent.
rarent	15-11-85	in t.p.r. cases, if parent desires representation by counsel, and the parent is indigent, court shall appoint an attorney
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R.	15-11-81	grounds for t.p.r.
Adoption	15-11-82	petition to t.p.r.
	15-11-90	placement of child following t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

HAWAII 1995 Supp.

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Definitions	321-36 350-1 587-2	definitions abuse, neglect definitions abuse, neglect definitions "harm"; "imminent harm"; "threatened harm"
Voluntary Placement	587-21(b)(2) 587-24(c)(2)	voluntary placement up to 6 months after emergency removal, department may enter into voluntary agreement within 2 days (before petition)
Emergency Hrg.	587-53(a) 587-53(i)	temporary foster custody hearing set within 2 days of filing of petition; within 4 days of removal hearing may be continued for no longer than 15 days
Petition Filed	587-31 587-21(3) 587-62 587-62(4)	form of petition within 2 days of temporary custody, petition must be filed when a petition has been filed, the court shall set a return date to be held within 15 days of the filing of petition or the date a decision is orally stated by the court on the record in a temp. foster custody hearing if child has been removed from home, the court shall set the case for an adjudication hearing or disposition hearing within 10 working days of the return date or later if in best interests
Adjudic. Hrg.	587-62 587-63 587-63(c) 587-62(b)(4) 587-63	pretrial conference within 15 days of filing petition or within 10 days if child has been placed in emergency foster care; adjudicatory hearing set within 10 days from pretrial conference petition sustained or not sustained temporary foster custody may be ordered pending disposition adjudicatory hearing to be set within 10 days of pretrial, if needed hearing procedure described
Dispo. Hrg.	587-62(b)(4) 587-63(c) 587-24 587-71	if adjudication stipulated, disposition hearing to be set within 10 days unless best interests disposition hearing may be held immediately after adjudicatory hearing disposition hearing immediately after adjudicatory hearing or within 30 days disposition hearing described; court may continue disposition hearing to 45 days from the date of the original disposition hearing (unless later date is "in best interests of the child"); in any case that a permanent plan hearing is not deemed to be appropriate, the court shall se the case for review hearing within 6 months
Court Reviews	587-72	review hearing every 6 mos. until court's jurisdiction has terminated or the court has ordered a permanent plan and has set the case for a permanent plan review hearing

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Court Permanency Plan Reviews	587-73 587-72,73 587-73(b) 587-73(b)(5)	permanency plan hearing described after 12 mos.; review described permanent plan review hearing; may be continued for a reasonable time not to exceed 6 mos. from the date of the continuance or the case be set for a review hearing within 6 mos. review hearing every year until disposition or guardianship
Permanency Deadline	587-72(c)(3) 587-73(e) 587-73(i)	if child out of home, no later than 18 months or if service plan can exceed one year, court may set "order to show cause hearing" for parent to show why a permanency plan hearing should not be set the court shall order a permanent plan for child within 3 yrs of the date upon which child was first placed under foster custody by the court court may continue permanency plan hearing up to 6 months
Agency or Citizen Review	None	
Reports, Plans	587-27 587-40(1) 587-40(3) 587-71	permanent plan; should include "a reasonable period of time" during which the adoption or guardianship of child should be finalized dept. shall make "every reasonable effort" to submit report within 48 hrs subsequent to the hour of the filing of petition for temporary foster custody dept must make report at least 15 days prior to date set for disposition, review, permanent plan, and permanent plan review hearing plan submitted to court within 30 days
Atty/GAL for Children	587-34 587-34(c)	GAL appointed for child for all proceedings; court may appoint additional counsel for the child duties GAL
Attorney for Parent	587-34(a) 587-34(d)	court appointed counsel for any party if party is indigent (permissive), counsel is necessary to protect party's interests adequately court may appoint GAL for any party that is incapable of comprehending the proceedings (GAL must report to court in writing at 6 mo. intervals)
CASA	None	
T.P.R. and Adoption	571-61;63 578 584	no t.p.r. unless to facilitate a legal adoption; parents duty to support continues until adopted adoption Uniform Parentage Act
Reasonable Efforts	587-25	"Safe family home guidelines" considered when determining whether the child's family is willing and able to provide for child

IDAHO 1997 Supp.

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Definitions	16-1602	abused; abandoned; neglected
Voluntary Placement	15-5-104	parent may delegate custody up to 6 months, or if in military up to 12 months
Emergency Hrg.	16-1613(b) 16-1613(c) 16-1614 16-1616	shelter care hearing w/i 48 hours excl. s/s/h, of removal hearing w/i 24 hours if alleged offender removed from home hearing defined authorization for emergency medical treatment
Petition Filed	16-1605	not specified; form of petition
Adjudic. Hrg.	16-1608 16-1612 16-1614	held w/i 30 days of filing of petition shelter care or adjudicatory hearing must take place w/i 48 hours of emergency custody shelter care hearing described; notice given at least 24 hrs before shelter care hearing; court shall issue order for temporary custody within 24 hrs of hearing
Dispo. Hrg.	16-1610 16-1617	not specified; disposition hearing described appeal; within 30 days of entry of final order
Court Reviews	not specified	
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	16-1610	disposition decrees are in effect for a period not to exceed 1 yr from date entered; court may extend if in best interests of child
Agency or Citizen Review	16-1609(A) 16-1622	multidisciplinary teams to investigate allegations agency/dept. review every person in custody at intervals not exceeding 6 mos reports of review filed with court
Reports, Plans	16-1609 16-1610(c) 16-1631 16-1622(i)	where the court has ordered a shelter care hearing or when a petition is filed, the court shall order the dept. to investigate and report to court; report delivered to court w/i 5 days before date set for adjudicatory hearing written case plan w/i 30 days of placement GAL report w/i 5 days before date set for adjudicatory hearing dept. shall report progress of child under its custody at intervals not to exceed 6 mos.

Atty/GAL for Children	16-1618 16-1631 16-1632	court shall appoint GAL; may appoint counsel for child or for GAL duties GAL rights and powers GAL
Attorney for Parent	16-1618 16-2007	court may appoint counsel if requested court may appoint GAL for any party in t.p.r. cases, including "alleged incompetent parent"
CASA	16-1630 16-1631	"child advocate" duties; guardian ad litem program GAL duties
T.P.R. and Adoption	16-1615 16-1619 16-2001 to 2015	dept. may petition to t.p.r. after 3 mos.; no petition for termination shall be made w/i 6 mos. of a prior petition for such termination t.p.r. procedure definitions, procedures (petition, conditions under which termination grantede.g. failure of parent to maintain relationship for a period of 1 yr @ 2007 hearing shall take place no sooner than 10 days after notice @2008 agency shall have 30 days to complete and submit its investigation @ 2009 hearing if t.p.r. granted, hearing every 18 months
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

## ILLINOIS 1997 Supp.

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Definitions	325-2/3 705, 405/2-3 325-8.2 405/2-4 <sup>1</sup>	abused, neglected, child in protective service defines neglected or abused minor family preservation services dependent minor
Voluntary Placement	325-5/8.2	service plan which family may voluntarily sign
Emergency Hrg.	405-2/9 405-2/10	temporary custody hearing 48hrs from removal must be brought before judicial officer hearing defined; order expires in 10 days unless removed
Petition Filed	405-2/-13	not specified; defined
Adjudic. Hrg.	405-2/14	within 90 days of date of service of process motion no later than 10 days delay allowable up to 30 days only one continuance granted adjudicatory hearing described
Dispo. Hrg.	405-2/21(2) 405/2-23	not later than 30 days from entry of finding (written) adjudication; may be continued once for up to 30 days for disposition report disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	405-2/28 314 see p/p reviews	permanency reviews every 12 months "preliminary review conference"; if in home of close relative, court review in 90 days information reported under SEC 4.3 in 180 days once placed in shelter care, child not returned to parent/guardian until court finds placement no longer necessary s below as well
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	405-2/10-1 405-2/28	case plan filed with court within 30 days court review within 18 mos. of shelter care order
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	325-5/7.1 505-4a	multidisciplinary review teams to prevent and monitor child abuse/neglect child abuse prevention shelters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>All Stats. 705ILCS

Reports, Plans	405/2-28 325-5/8.2 405-2/10.1	case plans for prior 6 months at every 12 month permanency hearing; GAL reports every 6 months service plan case plan within 45 days from placement
Atty/GAL for Children	405-2/17	court shall appoint GAL upon filing of petition; if GAL is not an attorney, GAL shall be represented by counsel; duties
Attorney for Parent	405-1/5	appointment if indigent
CASA	405-2/17.1	CASA may also serve as GAL except in counties with populations larger than 3 million
T.P.R. and Adoption	405-2/29 20/505-35.2	adoption procedures, grounds t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	405-2/10 325-5/5 405-3/12(2)	prevention of removal "reasonable" "reasonable"

## INDIANA 1996 Supp.

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Definitions	31-6-4-3 31-6-11-2.1	child in need of services (includes abuse and neglect) child abuse or neglect
Voluntary	31-6-4-12	court may authorize informal adjustment with consent of parents;
Placement	31-6-11-13.5	cannot exceed 6 months, with one extension of 6 months voluntary services referral agreement
Emergency Hrg. or "Detention Hrg."	31-6-4-6(f)	w/i 72 hours (excl. s/s/h) after removal
Petition Filed	31-6-4-10	prosecutor must request permission to file; court to authorize if it finds probable cause
Adjudic.	31-6-4-13.6	defined; no time limit; if allegations denied at initial hearing, fact-
Hrg.	31-6-4-14(d)	finding hearing may be held immediately or at a continued hearing after hearing, before judgment, court may continue up to 12 months, unless child or parent requests it, then w/i 30 days
Dispo. Hrg.	31-6-4-15.3 31-6-4-15.4	not specified; disposition hearing described disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	31-6-4-19(b)	6 months after removal and every 6 months after; may be by administrative panel
Reviews	31-6-4-19(c)	court to hold hearing 12 months after initial disposition or removal
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	31-6-4-19(c)	court hearings every 12 months after disposition or removal
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen	31-6-4-19(b)	6 month hearing may be before administrative review panel appointed by director of department
Review	31-6-11-14	community child protection teams
Reports, Plans	31-6-4-4	w/i 24 hours of emergency removal, written documentation to be given to CPS
A IGUS	31-6-4-6.6	case plan; no later than 60 days after child's first placement or disposition decree (whichever comes first); must include description of permanency plan
	31-6-4-12 31-6-4-15 31-6-4-19(c)	report of informal adjustment at 5 and 11 months predisposition report w/i reasonable time before disposition hearing annual review report

Atty/GAL for Children	31-6-3-4 31-6-4-13.6 31-6-5-4(d)	GAL is CASA or both may be appointed; attorney representing child may also be appointed GAL; court may appoint attorney to represent GAL provides when mandatory and when permissive (mandatory if parent denies allegations) if parent objects to t.p.r., GAL appointed
Attorney for Parent	31-6-3-2	entitled to counsel in t.p.r. proceedings
CASA	31-6-1-12	CASA defined
T.P.R. and Adoption	31-6-5 31-3-3	not specified; t.p.r. proceedings described adoption; aid for adoption of hard to place children
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

## **IOWA** 1996

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Definitions	232.68	child abuse; abuse
Voluntary Placement	232.116(1)	consent to t.p.r.
Emergency Hrg.	232.78 232.79	ex parte order for temporary custody emergency removal without order; notice to court; written notice w/i 24 hours
	232.95	hearing on temporary removal at any time after petition filed
Petition Filed	232.79 232.78 232.87	w/i 3 days of emergency removal without order w/i 3 days of ex parte order contents of petition
Adjudic. Hrg.	232.95 232.96	hearing on temporary removal may serve as adjudicatory hearing hearing procedure (no time set)
Dispo. Hrg.	232.97 232.99 232.100	hearing not less than 48 hrs after social services file report (can be waived if all parties agree) "as soon as practicable" after adjudication disposition can be suspended for up to 12 mos., and continued an additional 6 months
Court Reviews	232.95 232.102(8)(a) 232.102(8)(b)	review temporary custody order w/i 6 months unless disposition hearing held initial review no longer than 6 months from date of dispositional hearing subsequent reviews no longer than 12 months from latest review
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	232.104 232.104	permanency hearing after 12 months from original plcmt. permanency hearing following an order to continue plcmt. for an additional 6mos, court shall hold a hearing to consider modification of permanency order
Permanency Deadline	232.104 232.104(2)(b)	if in foster care 12 months; or if parent ceases to seek custody placement may be continued up to 6 months
Agency or Citizen Review	232.71(6) 232.71(17)	department can use multidisciplinary teams to investigate charges of abuse at a facility multidisciplinary teams to investigate reports of child abuse in large counties
Reports, Plans	232.102(8) 232.71(1) 232.71(7)	agency/person with custody to file report with court every 6 months written notification to parents of investigation w/i 5 days report on investigation of abuse to be sent to court w/i 4 days of complaint, unless good cause (at least 10 days)

Atty/GAL for Children	232.89 232.71(14) 232.89(4) 232.89(5)	court will appoint counsel for children and GAL in abuse cases, court shall appoint GAL same person may serve as GAL and counsel court may appoint CASA as GAL
Attorney for Parent	232.89(1)	court shall appoint if indigent; no right to appointed counsel if parent incarcerated (if no legal custody)
CASA	232.2(9) 232.89	defined, duties neglect and abuse cases specifically, court may appoint CASA
T.P.R. and Adoption	232.111-119 232.116 232.119	t.p.r. procedure (no times set) age specific grounds adoption exchange established; special needs children to be requested w/i 60 days of t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	232.102(9)	defined; what court should consider in determination

KANSAS 1996 Supp.

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Definitions	38-1502	"child in need of care"; abuse and neglect
Voluntary Placement	38.1544	informal supervision up to 6 months with one 6 month extension
Emergency Hrg.	38-1528 38-1543	emergency shelter to release child unless court order w/i 48 hours w/i 48 hrs excl. s/s/h, after removal; may be continued to allow 24 hour notice
Petition Filed	38-1524 38-1531	any person may file a petition alleging child is in need of care form of petition (no times set)
Adjudic. Hrg.	38-1532 38-1551-1560	hearing w/i 30 days from filing of petition "without unnecessary delay"; procedures
Dispo. Hrg.	38-1561 38-1562	may be entered at time of adjudication; shall be entered w/i 30 days of adjudication, unless good cause hearing defined
Court Reviews	38-1565(c)	if progress of child inadequate or plan no longer viable, court reviews no later than 12 months after placement out-of-home; yearly thereafter
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	38-1584(2) 38-1565 38-1566	hearing to be held 18 months after t.p.r. and every 12 months thereafter; progress reports every 6 months, at which time court to decide if review hearing needed plan must be submitted within 30 days court review no later than 12 mos. from first submission of plan review of change of placement notice to court 30 days before modification unless emergency
Permanency Deadline	38-1563(b)	duration of disposition is a maximum of 18 months with successive extensions of 12 months at a time with good cause shown
Agency or Citizen Review	38-1813 38-1812 38-1523(a)	local citizen review board's review 6 months after disposition and at least once a year; submit findings to judge foster care review boards multidisciplinary team investigation reviews (no times set)

Reports, Plans	38-1565(a) 38-1565 38-1565(b) 38-1565 38-1569 38-1546	plan to be submitted to court w/i 30 days after disposition order plan must be submitted w/i 30 days after disposition order reports filed every 6 months (by agency or court services officer); if child placed outside home and no plan part of dispositional hearing, written plan for reintegration or other placement 30 days after dispositional order entered progress reports and foster care reports every 6 months foster parents must submit written report to court every 6 months form of foster parent report  GAL review reports 48 hours prior to hearings, except for custody hearings
Atty/GAL for Children	38-1505(a)	court shall appoint attorney GAL; appointed for child upon filing of petition; duties
Attorney for Parent	38-1505(b) 38-1505(c)	attorney appointed for parent if indigent unless parent fails or refused to attend hearing after notice court shall appoint attorney for parent if parent is a minor or mentally ill
CASA	38-1582(b)(q)	an advocate other than the attorney GAL appointed to represent child's best interests
T.P.R. and Adoption	38-1581	t.p.r. petition (no times set)
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

# **KENTUCKY** 1996 Supp.

Definitions	600.020 620.020	abused or neglected child "case permanency plan," "case review," "citizen review boards," "permanency," "reasonable efforts"
Voluntary Placement	620.170	defined; no time limits; parents may request release and cabinet has 10 days to review
Emergency Hrg.	620.060(2) 620.080	ex parte emergency order valid for no more than 72 hours, excl. s/s/h, unless temporary removal hearing; may be extended w/i 72 hours of emergency order (unless waived), excl. s/s/h, or w/i 10 days of filing of petition
Petition Filed	620.060(4)	to be filed w/i 72 hours from emergency removal
Adjudic. Hrg.	620.090(5)	must be held w/i 45 days of removal unless extended in child's best interests
Dispo. Hrg.	620.090(5)	must be held w/i 45 days of removal unless extended in child's best interests
	610.080	bifurcated from adjudicatory hearing; held on different days unless child waives disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	not specified	•
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	610.125	no later than 18 months from removal, hearing to be held and annually thereafter
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	620.190 620.270	foster care review board (defined) foster care review board review at least once every 6 months until child no longer in custody
	620.180	administrative review of cases w/i 5 days of temporary removal hearing and every 6 months; all parties and attorneys may attend
Reports, Plans	620.230 620.240	case permanency plans filed with court and foster care review board case progress reports at least once every 6 months
Atty/GAL for Children	620.100(1)(a) 620.100(1)(d)	counsel appointed for child at temporary custody hearing court may appoint CASA

Attorney for Parent	620.100(1)(6) 620.100.1(c) 625.0405	appointed if parents cannot afford may appoint for nonparent who exercises custodial control and is indigent court to appoint if indigent party to voluntary termination
CASA		court may appoint CASA CASA program defined
T.P.R. and Adoption	625.040 625.050	voluntary termination described (no times set) involuntary termination described (no times set)
Reasonable Efforts	620.020(9) 620.130	defined reasonable efforts defined

#### LOUISIANA

Definitions	ChC 603 ChC 604 ChC (603(15)	abuse, neglect, reasonable efforts grounds for "child in need of care" permanent placement
Voluntary Placement	ChC 623-630	informal adjustment agreements before or after filing of petition, duration limited to 6 months with one 6 month extension
	ChC 1510	voluntary transfer of custody, court to maintain jurisdiction and may review (no limitation on time)
Emergency Hrg.	ChC 624	if child removed under order or without court order, hearing within 3 days of removal; one continuance for up to 3 days for good cause
Petition Filed	ChC 632	if child in custody or if protective order issued, petition to be filed within 30 days of emergency hearing, which may be extended for good cause
	ChC 633-635	contents and requirements of petition; can be amended at any time with the "leave of the court"
Adjudic. Hrg.	ChC 646	within 15 days of filing peition, court can require parents to appear and respond to allegations; if denied, court shall set adjudicatory hearing
	ChC 659	adjudicatory hearing within 45 days of filing of petition; if child not in continued custody, adjudicatory hearing within 105 days of filing of petition; continuances may be granted if in best interests of the child
	ChC 666	adjudication order
Dispo. Hrg.	ChC 678	may be conducted immediately after adjudicatory hearing but must be conducted within 30 days from adjudication; extended for good cause
	ChC 681 ChC 684	disposition alternatives judgment of disposition
Court Reviews	ChC 692(A)	review hearing 3 months after disposition if child removed prior to disposition hearing; within 6 months if child removed after disposition hearing; never more than 6 months after removal
	ChC 692 (B)	hearings every 6 months until P/P hearing before court or administrative body
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	ChC 702(A) ChC 702	disposition reviews every 12 months until child is permanently placed within 9 months of disposition hearing if child removed before disposition, within 12 months if child removed at disposition; in no case more than 12 months from removal
Permanency Deadline	ChC 686	not specified, but disposition remains in effect only until child reaches 18, if not earlier

Agency or Citizen Review	ChC 702(C) ChC 501	court may appoint or approve administrative body to conduct disposition review hearings Children's Advocacy Programto coordinate interviews and treatment in sex abuse cases
Reports, Plans	ChC 668 ChC 673 ChC 688	predisposition investigation reports shall be submitted to court prior to disposition hearing case plan to be prepared within 60 days after child enters custody of child care agency; filed with court at least 10 days before disposition hearing case review report to be filed 10 days prior to review hearing
Atty/GAL for Children	ChC 607	court shall appoint counsel or refer child to indigent defender board; no one can waive this right; if child might be institutionalized because of mental illness, child is entitled to attorney appointed by mental health advocacy service
Attorney for Parent	ChC 608 ChC 643-644 ChC 644	court shall appoint if indigent; parent may waive absent parent assigned attorney as "curator ad hoc" who has duty to make diligent search duties
CASA	not specified in rule or statute	
T.P.R. and Adoption	ChC 1001 ChC 1101 ChC 1167 ChC 1004	involuntary t.p.r. voluntary relinquishment adoptions unless abandoned, petition for t.p.r. (involuntary) cannot be filed until child in custody 18 months or more
Reasonable Efforts	ChC 603 ChC 626/628	reasonable efforts defined grounds for continued custodyreasonable efforts to eliminate need for removal

#### MAINE 1996 Supp.

	1	
Definitions	22-4002	abuse, neglect, abandoned
Voluntary Placement	22-4004(A) 22-4022	cannot exceed 180 days unless court finds child cannot return home; then can continue, but must be reviewed by court 18 months after agreement and then at least every 2 years voluntary care agreements; does not affect custody; short duration
Emergency Hrg.	22-4032 22-4034 22-4034(4)	"earliest possible date" for hearing set after filing petition "preliminary hearing" w/i 10 days of request for protection order; "C- 1 Hearing" hearing w/i 10 days of order if objections
Petition Filed	22-4032	contents defined (no times set)
Adjudic. Hrg.	22-4032(3) 22-4035/38	hearing at the "earliest practicable time and date" after petition filed "C-2 Hearing"; described (no times set)
Dispo. Hrg.	22-4035(3) 22-4036 22-4038	at time of adjudication if possible dispositional alternatives; disposition order may be for an indeterminate period, less than 18 years of age "a.s.a.p." after adjudicatory hearing, and within 18 mos. of petition filing
Court Reviews	22-4038(1)	at least once within 18 mos. and every 2 yrs. after mandated and non-mandated review when subsequent judicial review not required review of child in custody dept. within 18 months
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	22-4038(I) 22-4038(7)	at least 18 months after final order and every 2 years after unless emancipated or adopted; or unless guardian or long term foster care w/i 18 months of final protection order, court to permanency planning hearing or continue reunification efforts for 6 months
Permanency Deadline	22-4035(4) 22-4038	final order to be issued w/i 18 months of filing petition, unless good cause; if finding of heinous or abhorrent conduct, w/i 12 months of filing of petition 18 months
Agency or Citizen Review	22-4004	death review panel
Reports, Plans	22-4041 22-4005	service plan GAL to report to court and parties every 6 months
Atty/GAL for Children	22-4005	appointment of GAL for child; duties; may appoint counsel for GAL

Attorney for Parent	22-4005	appointment of counsel for parents (except in request for preliminary protection order)
CASA	Title 4, Chp. 3 (sec 1501)	l established and monitored
T.P.R. and Adoption	22-4050-4055	procedures; grounds; petition no earlier than 3 months after disposition
Reasonable Efforts	22-4055	reasonable efforts for termination

#### MARYLAND 1996 Supp.

r		
Definitions	FL <sup>2</sup> 5-701 CJ <sup>3</sup> 3-801	abuse, neglect adjudicatory hearing, "child in need of assistance", disposition hearing
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg.		hearing on peition no later than next court day, unless extended for good casue; shelger care may be extended up to 30 days after adjudicatory hearings ) hearing on same day petition filed; may be postponed up to 8 days
Petition Filed	CJ 3-812 CJ 3-810 CJ 3-815	form of petition to be filed within 30 days of receipt of complaint. If intake officer denies filing, Area Director may authorize filing if child removed, a petition shall be immediately filed
Adjudic. Hrg.	CJ 3-819 MR 11-114(b)	within 30 days after petition for shelter care hearing within 60 days unless waives petition filed, then 30 days after waiver hearing, unless child in continued shelter care; adjudicatory hearing within 30 days of date ordering continued care
Dispo. Hrg.	CJ 3-820 MR 11-115	separate hearing from adjudicatory hearing, unless hearing waived in writing by all parties; must be held on same day as adjudicatory hearing unless good cause no later than 30 days from adjudicatory hearing
Court Reviews	JR 915	w/i 18 mos. of placement and periodically thereafter; not to exceed 18 mos.
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	CJ 3-826.1(f) CJ 3-826.1(g) CJ 3-826.1	2) reviews of permanency plan every 6 months if child placed in permanent foster care or kinship care, no review needed if in long-term foster care, reviews at least every 6 months permanency hearing to review permanency plan no later than 10 months after disposition 18 months after original placement permanency plan hearing with reviews every 18 months

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FL=Family Law Code <sup>3</sup> CJ=Courts, Juvenile Proceedings Code

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> MR=1997 Maryland Rules

Permanency Deadline	CJ 3-826.1d(3)	every reasonable effort shall be made to effectuate permanency plan for a child within 24 months
Agency or Citizen Review	FL 5-706.1 FL 5-535 FL 5-535	person alleged to have abused or neglected child may request administrative hearing Foster Care Review Board to review cases every 6 months and make recommendations to court and agency foster care review boards
Reports, Plans	CJ 3-826	court may order periodic reports
Atty/GAL for Children	CJ 3-834 FL 5-323 CJ 3-821 MR 11-106	court may appoint attorney and may also appoint CASA right to attorney in t.p.r. proceeding party entitled to representation entitled to counsel
Attorney for Parent	CJ 3-821 FL 5-323	court shall appoint attorney for indigent parents in specific cases right to attorney if indigent in t.p.r. and adoption proceedings
CASA	CJ 3-834.1	CASA program defined
T.P.R. and Adoption	CJ 3-826.1(e)	if at permanency plan hearing court decides to place for adoption, petition for t.p.r. to be filed within 30 days and hearing on t.p.r. to be scheduled in lieu of 6 month review hearing
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

#### **MASSACHUSETTS**

	1	
Definitions	119/51B(4A-E	consequences of abuse
Voluntary Placement	119/23(A)	department may accept voluntary placement for a time agreed upon
Emergency Hrg.	119/24	ex parte order of removal valid for not more than 72 hours
Petition Filed	119/51B(3)	if child taken into temporary custody, petition to be filed next court day
Adjudic. Hrg.	119/27	findings written within 10 days of hearing; may be appealed
Dispo. Hrg.	119/26	disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	119/26	any party may petition court for review not more than once every 6 months
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	119/29B	within 18 months and periodically thereafter
Permanency Deadline	119/26 119/29B	unless court enters written findings of extraordinary circumstances, court shall enter final order of adjudication and permanent disposition no more than 15 months from date case first filed; may be extended once for 3 months within 18 months of transfer of custody to department court to review case
Agency or Citizen Review	119/51D	multi-disciplinary review boards; members; duties monthly reports regarding activities in region; review services available
Reports, Plans	119/51B 119/29	file service plan w/i 45 days department to provide parties with case plan within 45 days of department filing appearance
Atty/GAL for Children	119/29	court shall appoint counsel
Attorney for Parent	119/29	court shall appoint counsel if parent indigent
CASA	not specified	

T.P.R. and Adoption	119/23(F)	if parents consent to adoption and no home found within 60 days, agency must notify all foster care licensing agencies to find home
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

### MICHIGAN 1997 Supp.

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Definitions	MSA 25.248(2) 722.602 722.23 712A.13A	child abuse, neglect "child;" "child abuse;" "local council;" "neglect;" "state board;" etc. best interests of the child "agency;" "foster care"
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg.	712A.14(2) MCR 5.965	if child removed, child and parents, if found, shall immediately be brought before the court for a preliminary hearing; child released or petition filed hearing must commence w/i 24 hrs after child removed, excl. s/s/h
Petition Filed	712A.11 712A.13a	after inquiry, court to authorize filing of petition court may authorize filing after preliminary hearing, upon showing of one or more allegations
Adjudic. Hrg.	MCR 5.972	hearing must be held within 6 months after filing of petition (if child not in placement); if in placement, hearing must commence asap, but not later than 63 days after child placed by court, unless postponed for specific reasons
Dispo. Hrg.	712A.18 MCR 5.973B	disposition alternatives may immediately follow adj.; if child in placement w/i 35 days, except for good cause
Court Reviews	712A.19(3) MCR 5.973(B)	review hearing w/i 91 days after disposition and every 91 days for first year at least every 91 days for first year; every 182 days after p/p hearing for child in foster care; if child in home under supervision, every 91 days for first year and every 182 days thereafter
Court Permanency Plan Review	712A.19(3) 712A.19a(1) 712A.19c	hearing w/i 182 days after p/p hearing every 364 days after p/p hearing must have new p/p hearing if remains in foster care, every 182 days
Permanency Deadline	712A.19a(1), MCR 5.973(c) p/p hearing w/i 364 days after disposition; if child not returned, court shall order agency to initiate TPR w/i 42 days from p/p hearing, unless clearly shown not in child's best interests	
Agency or Citizen Review	722.131 722.137 722.603 722.131	foster care review board; local board to review initial case plan to review progress reports every 6 months, preferably before the mandated judicial review state abuse child abuse prevention board foster care review board; duties

Reports, Plans	712A.13a 712A.18f(5)	agency must prepare initial services plan w/i 30 days of placement service plan to be updated every 90 days
Atty/GAL for Children	712A.17c(7) MCR 5.914B2 MCR 5.916	court shall appoint; child cannot waive court shall appoint court may appoint GAL if welfare of the party requires it
Attorney for Parent	712A.17c(4) MCR 5.914B1	court shall appoint if indigent at each stage of proceeding; may waive unless parent is a minor court shall appoint if indigent
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	712A.19a & M 712A.196	CR 5.974  at p/p hearing, if child not returne, court shall order preparation of t.p.r. w/i 42 days unless clearly shown no in child's best interests t.p.r. described
Reasonable Efforts	712A.18f 25.312(3) & 72	agency must proved certain actions to avoid removal 2.23 best interests of child defined

## MINNESOTA

D C	260.015	
Definitions	260.015	"child in need of protection or services" (includes truant and runaways with abuse and neglect)
Voluntary	257.071(3)	if a child is not returned within 6 months, petition must be filed for
Placement	260.192 260.192(a)	review review of vol. placement within 6 mos. upon review, court may continue 6 months
Emergency Hrg. or "Detention Hrg."	260.133 260.172	emergency order valid for no more than 14 days court must hold hearing within 72 hours excluding saturdays, sundays, holidays; court may continue custody detention for 8 days, excluding saturdays, sundays, holidays, but may continue custody every 8 days, upon informal review
Petition Filed	260.131 260.133 260.171(2)(d)	anyone may petition w/i 5 days of temp. order for protection cannot be held in shelter care for more than 72 hours unless petition filed excl. s/s/h, and the judge determines child to remain
Adjudic. Hrg.	260.155 260.172(4)	in certain abuse and neglect cases, findings must be filed within 15 days (physical or sexual abuse) of hearing if child in custody, adjudicatory hearing within 60 days from detention hearing upon request of any party; may be continued to 90 days (or longer if good cause)
Dispo. Hrg.	260.191	disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	260.191(3a)	if child in residential facility, review every 6 months (defines residential facility as any group home or family foster home)
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	260.191(3b)(d) 260.242 260.191(3b)	after permanency plan decisions made, hearings as requested by federal law; if adoption plan is not finalized, or if disruption, no later than every 6 months after t.p.r., disposition hearing within 18 months of foster care placement and every 2 years after (unless long-term foster care) child in residential facility, permanency plan hearing within 12 months
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	260.151	"treatment screening teams"

Reports, Plans	260.171(6b) 260.191 260.191(e) 257.071	report to court when child delivered to shelter care facility disposition case plan must be filed with court case plan written with parents, child, foster parents, etc. if child in foster care, case plan prepared within 30 days (including voluntary placement)
Atty/GAL for Children	260.155(2) 260.155(4)	court shall appoint counsel when it feels it is desirable, and child cannot afford court shall appoint g.a.l. in every abuse and neglect case
Attorney for Parent	260.155(2)	court shall appoint if indigent and in any case court feels it would be desirable
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	260.221 260.231	permits t.p.r. within 1 year; presumption if out-of-home for more than 1 year and no indication that reunification possible in near future procedures
Reasonable Efforts	260.012 260.221(5)	reasonable efforts defined; requires cultural competence reasonable efforts on party of agency to reunite parents and children under t.p.r. proceedings

#### MISSOURI 1996

	Т	
Definitions	210.110	"abuse;" "child;" "neglect;" etc.
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg.	210.125(3) 210.125(4) 210.145(6)	person taking child into protective custody must file report with juvenile officer no later than 12 hrs after taking child "temporary protective custody" not to exceed 24 hrs (additional time with court authorization) investigation initiated within 24 hrs of report; 72 hrs if only "educational" neglect
Petition Filed	not specified	
Adjudic. Hrg.	not specified	
Dispo. Hrg.	210.720	within 18 months of initial placement
Court Reviews	210.720	every 6 months from filing of petition
Court Permanency Plan Review	210.700-760 210.720 211.447(3)	court review of placement within 18 months of initial placement; then annually t.p.r. if child has been under jurisdiction of court for a period of one year
Permanency Deadline	210.730	goal of court that percentage of children in foster care in excess of 24 months shall not exceed 30% in any fiscal year
Agency or Citizen Review	210.153 210.170172 210.192 210.775776	"child abuse and neglect review board" (Dept. of Social Services); independent review when alleged perpetrator aggrieved by decision "children's trust fund;" definition; powers & duties "child fatality review panel"  "foster and group home placement task force"; duties
Reports, Plans	211.181(5)	proposed treatment plan to be given to a professional evaluation team which must develop permanent plan (long range) w/i 30 days of date Dept. given custody
Atty/GAL for Children	210.160 211.211	court shall appoint GAL for child court shall appoint counsel prior to petition, if requested and child is indigent child may waive with approval of court
Attorney for Parent	210.160(2) 211.211	court may appoint GAL for parent who is a minor, mentally ill or otherwise incompetent court shall appoint counsel if requested and parent indigent and full and fair hearing requires

CASA	210.160(5) 210.160(6) 210.830	court may appoint volunteer advocates to assist GAL; shall have access to court appointed attorney GAL if required advocates must complete program in permanency training placement/parentage act
T.P.R. and Adoption	211.440 211.447(3) 211.455	procedures, grounds t.p.r. if child has been under jurisdiction of court for a period of one year when t.p.r. petition filed juvenile officer to meet with the court to determine that all parties are served and request that court order detailed investigation and social study (except when parents consent to tpr, then no investigation and social study required); investigation and report made to all parties and attorneys and/or GAL at least 15 days prior to disposition hearing
Reasonable Efforts	211.183	defined

#### MISSISSIPPI 1997 Supp.

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Definitions	43-21-105	"neglected;" "abused;" "dependent child"
Voluntary Placement	43-21-405 43-21-613	informal adjustment (before or after petition) for 6 months with on extension of 6 months reviews every 180 days for children voluntarily placed
Emergency Hrg. or "Shelter Hrg."	43-21-303 43-21-307 43-21-309	removal for no longer than 24 hours unless judge authorizes, excl. s/s/h judge may authorize temp. removal w/i 48 hours, excl. s/s/h temporary custody may be continued if petition filed or if shelter hearing held
Petition Filed	43-21-451 43-21-251 43-21-455	form w/i 5 days from shelter hearing if child removed within 5 days of detention hearing custody within 10 days of hearing non-custody content of petition
Adjudic. Hrg.	43-21-307 43-21-407 43-21-551 43-21-557	"informal adjudication process" (voluntary, re: supervision & contact) maximum 6 months, can be extended by court for another 6 wks termination of informal adjudication process within 90 days of petition unless extended for good cause; if child is in shelter, w/i 30 days unless postponed order of proceedings
Dispo. Hrg.	43-21-601 43-21-603 43-21-609	separate and distinct hearing from adj. hearing, but may be held immed. after; if child in custody w/i 14 days after adjudicatory hearing unless good cause procedure disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	43-21-613	reviews annually
Court Permanency Plan Review	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	43-15-13	goal of state department of human services will be to return child to natural parents or refer child to court for t.p.r. and permanent placement w/6 months of the child's entry into foster care; in furthering this goal, child's parents will have 6 month period of time in which to meet the service agreement with the dept.; if agreement not met, child will be simultaneously referred to court for t.p.r. and permanent placement w/6 months following the 6 month limitation; for children under 3, t.p.r. will be initiated w/6 and permanent placement w/i 2 months

Agency or Citizen Review	43-15-13	reviews every 6 months by personnel of state department of human resources; must file with court
Reports, Plans	43-21-253 43-21-253(2)	"social records" "social summary"investigation, care plan alternatives
Atty/GAL for Children	43-21-121(e) 43-21-201	GAL shall be appointed; may appoint attorney or other layman (trained) court shall appoint attorney for child if indigent; child shall have counsel at all critical stages
Attorney for Parent	not specified	
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	not specified	
Reasonable Efforts	43-51-1	family preservation act

#### MONTANA 1997

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Definitions	41-3-101 41-3-102	declaration of policy "abused and neglected;" "child;" "adequate health care;" "harm to a child's health or welfare;" etc.
Voluntary Placement	41-3-102	suggests that voluntary placement is acceptable
Emergency Hrg.	41-3-301(1) 41-3-403	emergency protective service; immediate removal order of immediate protection; show of cause hearing within 20 days of issuance of order for protection; may continue custody during investigation for no more than 90 days, with one 90 day extension; may continue pending hearing on petition
Petition Filed	41-3-301(3)	within 48 hrs of emergency placement
Adjudic. Hrg.	41-3-401 41-3-404	date set upon receipt of petition; given priority setting adjudication hearing; disposition hearing
Dispo. Hrg.	41-3-404(4b) 41-3-1014(1) 41-3-1014(4)	within 30 days of adjudicatory hearing disp. review hearing within 180 of original placement enter order within 20 days after disposition review hearing
Court Reviews	41-3-406(4) 41-3-1013	order of temp. custody valid for period no longer than 6 months; prior to expiration, county to petition for continuation, TPR, or dismissal court to review recommendations of local citizen review board w/i 10 days
Court Permanency Plan Review	41-3-1014	dispositional review hearing w/i 18 months of placement and then periodically thereafter review of citizen review panel; report within 10 days
Permanency Deadline	41-3-412 41-3-412(5) 41-3-410	w/i 12 months from initial order if child still in custody if extended 6 months - at next hearing court shall order t.p.r. or long-term custody permanent disposition/tpr/foster care
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Agency or Citizen	41-3-108	child protection teams help formulate plans; temporary & permanent multi-disciplinary teams; who; duties
Review	41-3-403	parent may request citizen review board to review case 30 days after show cause hearing
	41-3-1001	pilot project for local citizens review board; review at least 6 months after child placed and every 6 months thereafter; court to review
	41-3-1010(3)	recommendations w/i 10 days court may relieve citizen review board of responsibility for case review, if complete judicial review within 60 days prior to next scheduled board review
	41-3-1010(4)	review within 45 days if petition to tpr denied
Reports, Plans	41-3-412 41-3-1013 41-3-603(4)	review report to be filed w/i 3 days from p/p hearing citizen review panel report w/i 10 days "treatment plan"
Atty/GAL for Children	41-3-303	GAL appointed in every judicial proceeding; excludes dept. staff from appointment; eff. Oct 1, 1997
Attorney for Parent	41-3-401	if no personal service on parents, attorney appointed to represent if justice requires; if parent is minor, GAL appointed
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	41-3-601 41-3-607 41-3-609 41-3-610 40-8-101 40-8-122	procedures petition for termination criteria for termination court review within 180 days of tpr to determine if child permanently placed adoption investigation following petition to adopt filed with court within 30 days from issuance of order of investigation
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

#### NEBRASKA 1996

Definitions	28-705	"abandonment"
	28-707	"child abuse"
	28-710(3)	"neglect"
Voluntary	not specified	
Placement		
Emergency	43-248(3)	temporary custody
Hrg.	43-250(4)	hearing must be w/i 48 hrs of removal, excl. nonjudicial days
	43-254	placement pending adjudication
Petition	43-250	filed within 48 hrs of placement (excl. non-judicial days)
Filed		
Adjudic.	43-278	in abuse/neglect cases adj. hearing w/i 90 days from petition, unless
Hrg.		good cause
	43-271	continuances up to 6 months from petition
Dispo. Hrg.	not specified by	ut see 43-271.06 below
2 is por xxx g.	43-271.06	expedited review hearing only when court orders plan different from
		dept. of social services
	43-284	dispo in need of assistance
Court	43-278	every 6 months
Reviews	43-1313	when child in foster care, court review every 6 months
Court	43-295	continually while in court jurisdiction until child legally adopted
Permanency		
Plan Review		
Permanency	43-292	after 18 months, county to review no more than 30 days later to see if
Deadline		t.p.r. appropriate
Agency or	43-1308	review each case every 6 months w/i 30 days submit
Citizen		recommendations to court
Review	43-1314.01	state foster care review board review 6 months
	28-728	child abuse and neglect treatment teams to establish investigation
		protocol
Reports,	43-285	case plan w/i 30 days after child placed under care of dept.; reports
Plans		once every 6 months
Atty/GAL	43-272	appointed if indigent
for Children	43-272/272.01	GAL appointed when child removed, or if not removed,
	42 272(2)	at the commencement of case
	43-272(3)	attorney GAL, unless special reasons for appointment of particular person, may have both
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Attorney for Parent	43-272	appointed if indigent
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	43-279.01 43-292 43-1501/03 43-2106/126 43-1801/03	parties to tpr proceedings; grounds for termination Indian child welfare act t.p.r. review by supreme court or court of appeals grandparents visitation
Reasonable Efforts	43-284	reasonable efforts to avoid removal

**NEVADA** 1996 Supp.

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Definitions	432B.020 432B.140 432B.150 432B.330 128.012 128.0126 128.013 128.014	abuse or neglect defined negligent treatment or maltreatment excessive corporal punishment = abuse or neglect "child in need of protection" t.pr.; abandonment t.p.r.;failure of parental adjustment t.p.r.;injury to health or welfare t.p.r.;neglected
Voluntary Placement	432B.360	voluntary placement for 6 months, then must return child or file petition; child returned within 48 hours of request by parent or of petition filed.
Emergency Hrg. or "Protective Custody Hrg."	432B.400 432B.470	temporary detention by doctor no more than 24 hrs hearing must take place within 72 hrs of removal, excl. s/s/h
Petition Filed	432B.490 432B.510	petition must be filed within 10 days of protective custody hearing contents
Adjudic. Hrg.	432B.530	adjudicatory hearing must be held within 30 days of filing of petition, unless good cause
Dispo. Hrg.	432B.530(5) 432B.550	immediately after adjudicatory hearing or within 15 working days of adjudication disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	432B.580 432B.585 432B.600 128.106 128.107 128.108	case must be reviewed by court at least semiannually panel may be appointed to conduct semi-annual review if permanent plan has been approved by court, may dispense with annual hearings changes in plan must be reported to court within 30 days after the change specific consideration in determining neglect by or unfitness of parent specific consideration where child is not in physical custody of parent specific consideration where child has been placed in foster home
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	432B570 432B.600 432B.590	annually after 18 month review court may dispense with annual review if child permanently placed with relative, foster parent, or adoptive parent no later than 18 months after most recent removal of child and annually thereafter; presumption for t.p.r. if child out-of-home 18 out of the last 24 months

Permanency Deadline	432B.590	no later than 18 months after most recent removal of child and annually thereafter; presumption for t.p.r. if child out-of-home 18 out of the last 24 months
Agency or Citizen Review	432B.405 432B.585	child death review team judge may appoint panel to conduct semiannual review at no compensation
Reports, Plans	432B.395 432B.540 432B.580 128.0155	agency must submit annual report to division that it has made reasonable efforts to prevent removal from home agency must submit plan and recommend to t.p.r. if in best interests of child semiannual review reports plans defined
Atty/GAL for Children	432B.420 432B.500 128.100	court may appoint attorney to represent child if appropriate after petition filed, court shall appoint representative of agency, JPO, officer of the court, or volunteer as GAL; no compensation allowed appointment of attorney for child in t.p.r. cases
Attorney for Parent	432B.420	court may appoint attorney if indigent; shall appoint if indigent Indian
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. & Adoption	432B.590 128.005 to 128.160 128.109	if child has lived outside home for 18 mos. of any 24 consecutive mos t.p.r. must be in best interests of child procedures; rights; @ 023 t.p.r. and Indian children;  if child has resided outside home in placement for 18 mos. of any consecutive 24 mos. it must be presumed that the parent has demonstrated only "token efforts" to care for child if parent fails to comply with terms of plan within 6 mos. after the date on which child placed or plan commenced, whichever occurs later, failure to comply is evidence of failure of parental adjustment if child placed out of home for 18 mos. of any 24 consecutive mos., the best interests of the child presumed served by t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	see 128.109 (t.	p.r) above

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

1996

Definitions	169-C:3	"abandoned;" "abused child;" "child;" etc.
Voluntary Placement	169-C:27	implied
Emergency Hrg. or	169-C:6(IIa)	if child removed without court order, officer must immed. seek ex parte order for continued protective custody pending hearing
"Preliminary Hrg."	169-C:6(IIc)	protective custody; must notify bureau within 24 hrs of removal & placement in foster home (note exception)
	169-C:6a(III)	if court issues ex parte order, hearing to be held w/i 10 days from date of order
	169-C:6(IV)	court hearing within 24 hrs of taking child into protective custody, excl. s/s/h (presumably if no ex parte order)
	169-C:8	hearing not less than 24 hrs or more than 7 days after return of service of petition
	169-C:15	preliminary hearing defined
Petition Filed	169-C:6a(IV)	if ex parte order issued, law enforcement officer to file petition w/i 72 hours, excl. s/s/h
	169-C:7	petition contents
Adjudic. Hrg.	169-C:15	upon affirmative finding at prelim. hearing, adjudicatory hearing within 30 days of filing of petition
	169-C:18	adjudicatory hearing defined
Dispo. Hrg.	169-C:18(VII)	final disposition hearing within 30 days after finding for neglect or abuse
\	169-C:19	disposition hearing defined
	169-C:20	disposition - educationally disabled child
	169-C:28	appeals within 30 days of disposition order
Court Reviews	169-C:24	court review of disposition at any time but at least once a year; courts submitted to court at least 14 days prior to review
Court Permanency Plan Review	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	169-G:1	review panel established to review dispositional orders, upon request by Division

Reports, Plans	169-C:18(V) 169-C:24 169-C:12-12	social study after finding of abuse/neglect 14 days before annual review, supp. report to be given to court and parties all reports from various agencies and individuals must be filed with court at least 5 days prior to any hearing "social study report"
Atty/GAL for Children	169-C:10	court shall appoint GAL or CASA; no attorney to be appointed for GAL, but court may appoint attorney as GAL; may also appoint separate attorney for child
Attorney for Parent	169-C:10 170-C:8	if indigent, court shall appoint; "court shall not appoint an attorney to represent any other persons involved" if parent incompetent, GAL to be appointed at TPR proceeding
CASA	169-C:10	CASA may be appointed
T.P.R. and Adoption	Prob. Ct. Rule 170-C:2 170-C:4 170-C:4(IIa) 170-C:5 170-C:9 170-C:10	8 post t.p.r. review w/i 6 months from TPR, with reviews every 6 months after until adoption definitions parent, guardian or person with legal custody may file petition for t.p.r. foster parents may file only when child has lived in foster home continuously for 24 months and have requested in writing that the child-placing agency legally free child for adoption but the agency has not initiated proceedings grounds for social study hearing
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

#### **NEW JERSEY**

	1	
Definitions	9:6-1 9:6-8.9 9:6-8.21	definitions "abuse," "abandonment," "cruelty," "neglect" "abused child" "abused or neglected child"
Voluntary Placement	9:6-8:35	agency can adjust cases before complaint filed no later than 30 days with one 30 day extension allowed
Emergency Hrg.	9:6-8.19(c) 9:6-8.31 9:6-8.32	protective custody cannot exceed 3 court days hearing next court day parent may request hearing for return of child
Petition Filed	9:6-8.30	complaint to be filed immediately or on first court day after emergency removal
Adjudic. Hrg. or "Fact- finding Hrg."	9:6-8.48	no continuances for more than 30 days
Dispo. Hrg.	9:6-8.47 9:6-8.50	may begin immediately after adjudicatory hearing court can suspend disposition indefinitely with annual reviews
Court Reviews	9:6-8.60 9:6-8.32	any person may petition court to terminate placement application to return child temporarily removed; court will hear within 3 days
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	9:6-8.54	first p/p hearing at 18 months; successive extensions of 1 year allowed
Permanency Deadline	9:6-8.60-61	petition to terminate placement (no times set)
Agency or Citizen Review	not specified	
Reports, Plans	not specified	
Atty/GAL for Children	9:6-8.23	law guardian must be appointed (attorney)
Attorney for Parent	9:6-8.43	if indigent, parent may apply to Department of Public Advocacy for appointment of counsel
CASA	not specified	

T.P.R. and	9:2-8.18	t.p.r. proceedings
Adoption	9:2-8.16	voluntary surrender parental custody
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

## NEW MEXICO

	1	
Definitions	32A-4-2	"abandonment;" "abused child;" "neglected child;" "physical abuse;" "sexual abuse"
Voluntary Placement	32A-3A-6 32A-3A-7	voluntary placement (certain types of cases) no longer than 90 consecutive days or more than 90 in one calendar year, except court may, after hearing, order additional 90 days
Emergency Hrg. or "Custody Hrg."	32A-4-18	w/i 10 days from date petition filed - not sooner than 2 days after petition filed
Petition Filed	32A-4-7(D) 32A-1-11	petition must be filed within 2 days from removal form of petition
Adjudic. Hrg.	32A-4-19 32A-4-20	within 90 days after latest of following dates: petition served on defendant; date order of mistrial or new trial; date of order of disposing appeal conduct of hearings
Dispo. Hrg.	32A-4-20(H) 32A-4-22 32A-4-9 32A-4-23	court may proceed immediately from adj. or at a postponed hearing disposition alternatives Indian child placement preferences disposition of mentally disordered abused child
Court Reviews	32A-4-25	w/i 6 months of disposition order, and every 6 months after, dept. to petition court for review
Court Permanency Plan Review	32A-4-24	order investing legal custody to agency not to exceed 2 yrs
Permanency Deadline	32A-4-24	disposition order giving custody to agency remains in effect for an indeterminate time not to exceed 2 years; order giving custody in effect 2 years unless court terminated earlier; court may extend agency custody for additional one year periods
Agency or Citizen Review	32A-8-1 32A-8-6	citizens substitute care review act prior to judicial review to review any disposition order or continuation of order and progress report, and report to judge (not a substitute review)
Reports, Plans	32A-4-21 32A-4-25 32A-4-21	predisposition studies, reports, and exams provided to all parties 5 days before disposition hearing progress reports at reviews disposition report (when Indian child report should include plan for maintaining cultural ties); includes placement and treatment plans

Atty/GAL for Children	,	GAL shall be appointed at inception of proceedings; no agency entrusted with custody can be GAL  C) basic rights of child  G.A.L. with knowledge of child's cultural background
Attorney for Parent	32A-4-10(B)	counsel appointed for all parents at inception of case until indigency determination made at custody hearing
CASA	32A-4-14(A)	(referred to but not defined)
T.P.R. and Adoption	32A-4-28/29 32A-4-28(E) 32A-4-29 32A-4-31/32 Article 5	procedure in some cases, court may proceed immediately with order of adoption, such order effective 60 days after to allow time for counselling dept., child-placement agency, GAL, or any other interested person may file t.p.r. petition permanency guardianship adoption
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

#### **NEW YORK**

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Definitions	Soc.S* 412 FCA* 1012 FCA 1044	general defs. abused, neglected, maltreated abused; neglected "fact-finding hearing"
Voluntary Placement	FCA 1021 FCA 1039	police may remove child with consent of parents and hold for 3 days "adjournment in contemplation of dismissal" for less than 1 year, with open-ended extensions, for informal adjustments; prior to or at fact-finding hearing
	FCA 1053	court may suspend judgment for 1 year with possible extensions of 1 year at disposition hearing
Emergency Hrg.	SOC 417	child protective services can take custody until next regular weekday session of family court at which time a child protective proceeding should be held or recommendation made to return child to parent/guardian
	FCA 1027 FCA 1028	court will hold hearing "as soon as possible" after emergency removal except for good cause shown, hearing on application for return of
		child shall be held w/i 3 days of the application
	FCA 1029	temporary order of protection (petition must be filed within 10 days of order or vacated
	FCA 1035	appearance must be w/i 3 court days of filing of petition where child removed; appearance must be w/i 7 days where child not removed
Petition Filed	FCA 1027	in abuse case or when child removed without court order, hearing is as "soon as practicable" after filing of petition
7	FCA 1028	parties may move for hearing for return of child to be held w/i 3 days of application w/i continuances
	FCA 1035	appearance must be w/i 3 court days of filing of petition where child removed; appearance must be w/i 7 days where child not removed
	FCA 1039	adjournment in contemplation of dismissal not to exceed 1 yr
Adjudic. Hrg. or	FCA 1049 FCA 1051	priority setting; continuances only for good cause and short duration hearing procedure
"Fact- finding Hrg."	I CA 1031	nearing procedure
Dispo. Hrg.	FCA 1055	placement made for initial period of up to one year with extensions of
		one yr each petition to extend a placement shall be filed at least 60 days prior to expiration of period of placement
	FCA 1045	definition hearing
	FCA 1047	commences immediately after adjudicatory hearing called a "fact-finding hearing" or may adjourn (no time limit given) suspended judgment for a maximum of 1 yr unless special or extreme
		circumstances, then may extend for an additional yr

<sup>\*</sup>Soc.S --Social Services Law; FCA --Family Court Act

Court Reviews	FCA 1055-65	placement made for initial period of up to one year with extensions of one yr each petition to extend a placement shall be filed at least 60 days prior to expiration of period of placement; any interested person can petition for change of placement; if denied, petition can be renewed for 90 days
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	FCA 1055a	petition must be filed sixty days prior to end of month which would constitute the 18 month of plcmt., or 60 days prior to the expiration date of an extension of plcmt.; for a child freed for adoption and not placed in adoptive home, the petition must be filed 6 months after the child has been freed; if a child has been freed and placed in an adoptive home but an adoption petition has not been filed 12 months after the adoptive plcmt., the petition must be filed 12 months after the child has been in the adoptive home — whichever of the above comes first
Permanency Deadline	FCA 1055(VII SOC 392	if child under one year is abandoned, at disposition, court to order diligent search and order agency to proceed to t.p.r. 6 months after agency gets custody, unless parents appear and participate if child in foster care 18 months; or if freed for adoption and w/i 6 months not in a prospective home and no petition for adoption, then w/i 12 months
Agency or Citizen Review	SOC 421(3) SOC 426 SOC 440-42	agency review annual report child care review service described (no times set)
Reports, Plans	not specified	
Atty/GAL for Children	FCA 1033b FCA 1042	court shall appoint GAL court can proceed to hear a petition in absence of parent, only if child represented by attorney, GAL or law guardian
Attorney for Parent	FCA 1022(a) FCA 1033(b)	appointment of counsel for parent at temporary order appointment of counsel for indigent respondents at initial appearance
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	FCA 1055(a)	petition for adoption filed 60 days prior to the end of the month which constitutes 18th month of period of placement or 6 mos. after a child has been freed for adoption if they have not been placed in adoptive home 12 mos. if they have t.p.r. due to permanent neglect
Reasonable Efforts	FCA 1055(c)	implied requirements

#### NORTH CAROLINA 1996

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Definitions	7A-517	"abused juvenile"; "neglected juvenile"
Voluntary Placement	7A-572a(3)(b) 7A-661	prehearing diversion review of voluntary placement by court not more than 180 days from placement and thereafter at court's discretion shall not remain in voluntary placement for more than 12 mos. without filing petition
Emergency Hrg.	7A-577 7A-572	no child shall be held under an order for custody for more than 7 days without a hearing hearing may be continued for up to 10 days with parent consent temporary custody no more than 12 hrs unless petition filed 24 hrs if on weekend
Petition Filed	7A-560 7A-572(a)(4)	petition described petition must be filed w/i 12 hrs, or 24 hrs if 12 hrs falls on s/s/h after removal
Adjudic. Hrg.	7A-629	described - no time set
Dispo. Hrg.	7A-639 7A-640 7A-647	upon receipt of "sufficient social, medical, psychiatric, psychological, and educational info" judge may exclude public disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	7A-651 7A-657	review hearing held within 6 mos. of placement orders for placement must examine reasonable efforts w/i 6 months of date order entered with subsequent reviews at least annually; court may waive review hearings and just review reports if placement stable, placement w/ relative for more than one year, best interests does not require reviews
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	7A-757 7A-659 7A-660	annual reviews; court may waive placement review no later than 6 mos. after t.p.r reviews every 6 mos. thereafter court considers adequacy of permanent plan review agency's plan for child placement adoption dismissed or withdrawn, then agency must notify clerk within 30 days to calendar case for review review within 30 days of petition for review
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	7A-545	see reports below
Reports, Plans	7A-545	evaluation by agency for court (home and treatment plan) report should by available to court immediately after adjudicatory hearing

Atty/GAL for Children	7A-586	court shall appoint GAL; if not an attorney, court shall appoint an attorney also through disposition phase duties g.a.l appointment ends at 2 yrs (can be re-appointed)
Attorney for Parent	7A-587	parent has right to counsel and appointment of counsel in no case may judge appoint county attorney, prosecutor, or public defender
CASA	7A-489	guardian ad litem services established
T.P.R. and Adoption	7A-659 7A-289.32	reviews every 6 mos. until child adopted child shall be informed no more than 30 days no less than 15 days of review or g.a.l. if child is under 12 if no g.a.l. previously appointed court may appoint grounds for t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	7A-577	any hearing shall include finding re: whether reasonable effort made (not defined)

#### NORTH DAKOTA

Definitions	50-25.1-02* 27-20-02**	"abused child," "neglected child" "deprived child"
Voluntary Placement	27-20-10	informal adjustment before adj. for no more than 9 months
Emergency Hrg.	27-20-17 50.25.1-07	shelter hearing w/i 96 hours of removal custody in medical facility no longer than 96 hrs must immediately notify court
	27-20-06	temporary orders for custody not to exceed 30 days
Petition Filed	27-20-17	if child removed, petition is to be "promptly made"
Adjudic. Hrg.	27-20-22	hearing must be held no later than 30 days after petition filed or petition dismissed (unless extension filed); 14 days if child "in detention," extensions for good cause
Dispo. Hrg.	27-20-29	held immediately after adjudicatory hearing, or continued for a "reasonable time"
	27-20-30	disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	27-20-37	parties may petition for modification of order
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	27-20-36	disposition order placing child in foster care valid for 18 months (from order); all other disposition orders valid for 2 years; extensions cannot exceed 18 months from expiration of foster care order or 2 years from other orders' expiration, except court can order long term foster care; for a child under 10, at extension hearing, court must determine if adoption in best interests and proceed with TPR
Agency or Citizen Review	50.25.1-04.1	state child protection team to make reports and recommendations and to serve as child fatality review panel
Reports, Plans	27-20-26 27-20-28	"juvenile supervisors" make reports to court investigations and reports
Atty/GAL for Children	27-20-26 50-25.1-08	court to provide counsel at custodial, post-petition and informal adjustment stages (may force parents to pay)  GAL for every child in all proceedings
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<sup>\* 27-20</sup> relates to "deprived child" (not abused)

\*\*50-25 relates to child abuse and neglect (w/i public welfare section)

Attorney for Parent	27-20-26	right to counsel at all stages and for court to provide one if "person is needy"
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	14-09-19 27-20-44 27-20-45 27-20-47 27-20-47	grounds for terminating grounds proceedings order cannot be questioned after 30 days (30 days for appeal) if child not adopted within 18 mos., returned to court for review child to come before court if not adopted w/i 18 months of t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

OHIO 1996 Supp.

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Definitions	2151.03 2151.03 2151.05	"neglected child" "abused child" "child without proper parental care"
Voluntary Placement	5103.15	temporary custody up to 30 days; can be up to 60 days if purpose is to obtain adoption of child under 6 months; agency may request 30 day extension and then an additional 30 days (requires court order)
Emergency Hrg.	2151.31 2151.31.1(E) 2151.31.4	court may issue ex parte order by phone court shall hold hearing on ex parte emergency orders before the end of the next business day, and within 72 hours hearing within 72 hours of removal
Petition Filed	2151.27	any person may file a complaint; if child removed without filing complaint; a complaint must be filed before the end of the next day
Adjudic. Hrg.	2151.28 2151.35 *RJP 29	no more than 72 hours after complaint is filed, court to set time; hearing to be held within 30 days of complaint, with some extensions allowed within 60 days after complaint procedures adj. & disp. hearings; general public may be excluded if child in shelter care, hearing within 10 days unless continued for good cause
Dispo. Hrg.	2151.28(B)(3) 2151.35 2151.35.3	must be held no later than 90 days after complaint filed procedures; disposition hearing to be separate; held immediately after or within 30 days; continuances allowed for up to 90 days after date complaint filed; judgment to be made within 7 days disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	2151.41.7(C)	court to hold review hearing within 1 year of complaint or removal
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	2151.41.7(C)	court may review at any time but no later than 1 year after date complaint first filed, and every year thereafter
Permanency Deadline	2151.35.3 2151.41.5	order for temporary care valid for no more than one year from complaint or removal, unless request for extension filed; order for protective supervision may be extended 6 months court may grant 6 month extension and may grant one additional six month extension if in best interest of the child
Agency or Citizen Review	2151.41.6	agency to conduct semiannual reviews of case plans beginning no later than 6 months from complaint or removal and then at least every 6 months after (unless court hearing overlaps); file summary with court; parties may request hearing

<sup>\*</sup> RJP --Rules of Juvenile Procedure

Reports, Plans	2151.35.3(D) 2151.41.2 2151.41.2	journalized case plan as part of disposition order case plan filed prior to adjudicatory hearing, but no later than 30 days after earlier of complaint filed or child placed in shelter care goals of plans
Atty/GAL for Children	2151.28.1 RJP 4(A)	court to appoint GAL; cannot be any party to the proceeding; appointed a.s.a.p after complaint filed; if attorney, may also serve as counsel; if conflict in roles arises, new GAL appointed when child is alleged to be abuse, court shall appoint attorney for child
Attorney for Parent	2151.28.1(C) 2151.35.2	court shall appoint GAL for any minor or mentally incompetent person all parties have right to counsel; provided if indigent
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	2151.41.3-41.4	petition for permanent custody; hearing within 120 days of filing of motion, with extension for good cause; court must dispose of motion and enter order no later than 200 days after motion filed (no sanctions for violations of time limits)
Reasonable Efforts	2151.41.9	determination of reasonable efforts

#### **OKLAHOMA**

	10.7001.1.5	
Definitions	10-7001-1.3	deprived child (incl. abused and neglected)
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg.	10-7003.2.1B( 10-7003-2.2	notice to be given to court of emergency removal by close of next business day hearing w/i 24 hrs of application for emergency medical or mental
	10-7003-2.4	health treatment w/i 2 judicial days of removal, and thereafter as required, hearing for child taken into protective custody; no pre-adjudication order valid for more than 30 days with one extension up to 60 days; priority setting
	10-7002-1.2 10-7003-2.1 10-7003.2.2	preliminary hearing protective custody application must be submitted to court no later than close of business next day emergency hearing held within 24 hrs of filing application
Petition Filed	10-7003.3.1 10-7003.3.2	petition described petition must be filed w/i 5 judicial days of protective custody; if such a petition is not filed, custody of the child shall be released to child's parent, legal guardian, legal custodian or other responsible adult; if a child was taken into custody upon allegations of cruelty, 5 day limitation shall not cause child to be released to accused perons; in all such cases a petition shall be filed w/i 30 days of the child being taken into custody
Adjudic. Hrg.	7003-3.5 7003-4.1	no hearing before 48 hrs after service of petition without parent consent (or w/i 5 days from mailing summons) hearing may be public
Dispo. Hrg.	7003-5.1 7003-5.5 10-7003-6.4 7003-5.5(A)(2	disposition hearing disposition order all appeals within 30 days of order record on appeal within 60 days appellant briefs filed within 20 days; answer within 15 days; reply within 10 days; adjudicated with Supreme Court protective supervision order valid for 1 year plus extensions
Court Reviews	7003-5.4a 7003-5.6 7003-5.3	notice of movement of child w/i 1 day; no second movement without court hearing between reviews at least once every 6 months individual case plan to be filed w/i 30 days after child adjudicated deprived; review pre-adj. or pre-dispo. cases of children in out-of-home placement for 90 days (hearing w/i 45 days of the 90th day)

Permanency Plan Reviews	7003-5.6	no later than 18 months after placement and every 12 months thereafter, court shall hold disposition hearing
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	10-1116.2 10-1116.3 10-1201	appointment by presiding judge of district 5 members (experience or training with child welfare; foster parent; agency member) duties reviews cases once every 6 mos. and submit to court within 10 days of any review hearing (review should be completed within 45 days following initial placement) in each county with more than 100,000 there is also a citizen's advisory committee duty to report and investigate all cases of neglected and abused children
Reports, Plans	10-1116.3 10-7003-5.3,5. 10-7003-5.6	also review board makes annual report  4 individualized service plan filed with court within 30 days child adjudicated deprived review hearing reports, including report by attorney for child
Atty/GAL for Children	10-7002-1.2 10-7003-3.7	court to appoint counsel for child in divorce/custody dispute if allegations include abuse and neglect court shall appoint counsel for child; GAL shall not be D.A. or member of agency; priority given to appoint CASA as GAL
Attorney for Parent	10-7003-3.7 10-7003-3.7	counsel appointed if indigent court may appoint GAL; and shall appoint if child requests
CASA	10-7001-1.3(7) CASA defined 10-7003-3.7 mandates CASA program in each judicial district; duties described	
T.P.R. and Adoption	7006-1.1 10-1130,1131 10-1133 10-7006-1.1;1.	procedures notice of hearing (held 10 days after receipt of notice) adoption after parental rights terminated cannot challenge after 3 mos. 2;1.4;1.5 notice of hearing within 10 days; action to adopt action to adopt cannot be combined with action to t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	10-7001-1.2	discusses reasonable efforts and best interests in purposes of code

# OREGON 1996 Supp.

Definitions	419B.005	abuse; neglect
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg. or "Shelter Hrg."	419B.150 419B.168 419B.183 419B.185	protective custody notice of a parent or guardian a.s.a.p. without unnecessary delay, take child before court or shelter care no child shall be held in shelter care for more than 24 hrs (excl. weekends and holidays) without a hearing evidentiary hearing described
Petition Filed	419B.230 419B.233 419B.242	who may file (any person) temporary custody after filing petition contents
Adjudic. Hrg.	419B.271 419B.310	hearing w/i 24 hours after issuance of summons may be continued from time to time; no jury; burden of proof = preponderance of the evidence; no time set
Dispo. Hrg.	419B.325 419B.331	described; no time set disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	419B.349 419B.449 419B.470 419B.476 419A.120	(no time frame given) court has right to review placement court may hold a hearing upon receipt of 6 month (or other) reports; or if requested by child, attorney, parents guardians, or agency within 30 days of receiving notice court conducts disposition review hearing no later than 18 mos. after original placement (or any time upon request) order entered within 20 days of hearing may order new plan submitted within 10 days court reviews findings of citizen review board within 10 days of report
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	419B.470	"periodically" after 18 month review
Permanency Deadline	419B.470	disposition review hearing w/i 18 months after original placement or upon request
Agency or Citizen Review	419A.090	local citizen review boards first review no later than 6 mos. after placement with subsequent reviews and every 6 mos. thereafter board reviews any case in which t.p.r. denied no later than 45 days after receiving petition notice

Reports, Plans	419B.343 419B.440 419B.443	case plan reports required of children's services division reports required by anyone having legal custody of child "as soon as practicable" and every 6 mos. thereafter also review 6 mos. after t.p.r. and child adopted contents of reports
	419B.446	filing of report with review board
Atty/GAL for Children	419A.180(9) 419B.195 419B.198	CASA deemed GAL for federal requirements court shall appoint counsel, upon request, if parents indigent; court shall appoint counsel for all children when allegations of abuse and/or neglect (at parent's expense) may require parents to pay
	419B.220	"educational surrogate" before making child ward of court, preliminary investigation conducted to determine if child needs special education
	419B.223 419B.115	duties, responsibilities parties to proceedings include g.a.l., casa, child services division, an "intervenor" can petition court for right to "limited participation" in proceedings
Attorney for	419B.205	counsel appointed if indigent and nature of proceedings and due
Parent	419B.518	process require (examples listed) counsel appointed for parent in t.p.r. cases
CASA	419B.170	court shall appoint CASA in every case; if no CASA available, court may appoint employee of judicial department or other suitable person
T.P.R. and	419B.460	when child has been surrendered for adoption agency shall file
Adoption	419B.500-517	petition within 6 mos. t.p.r. procedures and standard of proof = clear and convincing evidence
	419B.521	hearing must be held within 10 days of notice
Reasonable Efforts	419B.340	reasonable efforts determination - full statute describing requirements

#### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Definitions	23 /6303 42/6302	"child abuse;" "sexual abuse;" "etc." "dependent child"
Voluntary Placement	42/6323 23/2511(5)	informal adj. before petition filed - report back to judicial officer w/i 3 months; valid for 6 months unless extended 3 months (specifically authorized for dependent child) implies voluntary agreement
Emergency Hrg. or "Informal Hrg."	23/6315 42/6332	no protective custody unless order from court w/i 24 hrs; informal hearing w/i 72 hrs of placement in shelter care
Petition Filed	23/6315 42/6331 42/6334	petition to be filed w/i 48 hrs of informal hearing petition presented to court w/i 24 hrs or next business day when emergency removal petition contents
Adjudic. Hrg.	42/6335 42/6336 42/6341	not later than 10 days after petition if child in shelter care, unless good cause up to an additional 10 days conduct of hearing adjudication described; burden of proof = clear and convincing evidence
Dispo. Hrg.	42/6341(c) 42/6351	hearing immediately or postponed, but no more than 20 days after adjudicatory hearing if child out of home disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	42/6351(e)	w/i 6 months of removal from home; second review w/i another 6 months; third in another 6 months and then every 12 months - unless long term foster care w/i another adoptive family
Court Permanency Plan Review	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	42/6343 42/6307	investigative child protective services by dept. of public welfare & the Commonwealth inspection of court files & records (judiciary, public or private agencies)
Reports, Plans	42/6339	social study (child, family, enviro, other)

Atty/GAL for Children	42/6332 42/6337	appointment of counsel if needy counsel to be provided unless parents waive; they cannot waive if their interests conflict
Attorney for Parent	42/6332 42/6337	appointment of counsel if needy appointment if needy
CASA	23/6111	domestic violence counselor/advocate (does not def)
T.P.R. and Adoption	23/2511 23/2512 23/2701 et se	t.p.r; grounds for involuntary termination petition eq adoption
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

# RHODE ISLAND

Definitions	40-11-2	"abused and/or neglected child"
Voluntary Placement	42-72-14	department may accept voluntary placements; must return child to parent w/i 10 days of request, unless temp. custody sought from court; department to petition court for continuation w/i 120 days; court to schedule hearing w/i 60 days agency shall petition court for care and custody of child in voluntary placement 12 months; no need to petition if child with disabilities placed to access residential facility
Emergency Hrg.	40-11-5 40-11-7.1	medical practitioner hold for 72 hrs. or law enforcement hold; but cannot hold in protective custody more than 48 hrs. without approval of family court hearing on ex parte petition w/i 7 days of filing
Petition Filed	40-11-7	petition for protective supervision or removal
Adjudic. Hrg.	40-11-7.1	w/i 10 days of request for hearing
Dispo. Hrg.	40-11-12	disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	40-11-12.1	family court review within 12 mos. after child placed in foster care (or whenever necessary)
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	42-72-14	within 120 days of voluntary placement, court will determine best placement; family court must schedule hearing within 60 days of petition
Permanency Deadline	40-11-12.1	w/i 12 months from placement, agency shall petition for dispositional hearing; if court does not continue foster care, agency must institute TPR proceeding w/i 30 days; for a child under 10 in care for 12 months, court shall order proceedings toward adoption, unless certain factors
Agency or Citizen Review	40-11-12.2	agency shall present reunification plan or case plan at every disposition or review hearing
Reports, Plans	42-72-10	department to prepare service plan for every child; department must review every 6 months to see if in best interests
Atty/GAL for Children	40-11-7.1 40-11-14	GAL or CASA appointed at first hearing GAL or CASA appointed at discretion of court

Attorney for Parent	40-11-7.1 40-11-14	attorney appointed if indigent if indigent, and if requested, at court's discretion, court may appoint (public defender)
CASA	40-11-7.1 40-11-7	CASA implied report to child advocate re: petition
T.P.R. and Adoption	15-7-7 15-7-4 15-7-6 15-7-7.1 15-7-7.1	t.p.r. (clear and convincing evidence); out-of-home placement 12 month prima facie evidence of problem petition to adopt waiver of parental rights to consent court proceedings within 180 days of t.p.r. petition 6 mo. trial period in proposed home
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

# SOUTH CAROLINA

Definitions	20-7-490	"abused & neglected child"
Voluntary Placement	20-7-635	temporary crisis homes for voluntary placement for no more than 72 hrs.
Emergency Hrg.	20-7-610(D) 20-7-610(H) 20-7-610(K)	department to convene family w/i 24 hrs. of emergency removal, if possible, for meeting on corrective action or placement preliminary investigation w/i 72 hrs. emergency protective custody hearing w/i 72 hrs. of removal, excl s/s/h; may be by video conference
Petition Filed	20-7-610(I) 20-7-736	initiate proceedings by end of next business day after initiating investigation of child emergency removal removal petition filed by agency within 10 days; pretrial hearing within 10 days of initiation of proceedings; custody hearing (removal) within 30 days of removal petition (see also jurisdiction & proceedings family court)
Adjudic. Hrg. or "Removal Hrg."	20-7-610(K) 20-7-738 20-7-755	hearing must be held w/i 35 days of receipt of petition for removal (or protective supervision) hearing described for protective supervision no jury; hearing conducted in formal manner
Dispo. Hrg.	20-7-764	plan presented to court w/i 10 days of removal hearing; court to hold hearing if requested
Court Reviews	20-7-762(C	unless services are to terminate earlier, review at least once every 12 months in protective services cases
Court Permanency Plan Review	20-7-766(G)	if child under 14 and in permanent foster care, no reviews; if reunification still part of plan, hearing w/i 6 months; if TPR, annually after TPR; in other specified cases, reviews every 6-12 months, or upon request
Permanency Deadline	20-7-766	hearing no later than one year after date child first placed in foster care; court may order continued protective supervision for 12 months; if no return, court shall order agency to file TPR w/i 60 days, unless interests; may continue for specified purposes only
Agency or Citizen Review	20-7-5900 20-7-2376 20-7-2391	state child fatality advisory committee foster care review board; review every 6 months and at least once every 6 months, every child in public foster care for more than 4 months and on private foster care more than 6 months person aggrieved of recommendations may seek hearing with family court

Reports, Plans	20-7-740 20-7-762 20-7-780	investigative report (content) case plan records/info
Atty/GAL for Children	20-7-110 20-7-1570	counsel and GAL to be appointed; attorney cannot be same for parents or agency GAL appointed in t.p.r.; counsel for GAL if petition contested
Attorney for Parent	20-7-110(2) 20-7-1570	indigent parents must have counsel appointed appointment in t.p.r. proceeding if indigent
CASA	20-7-121	GAL program established to train volunteer court appointed special advocates; administered by government office
T.P.R. and Adoption	20-7-1566 20-7-1572	content of petition order terminating
Reasonable Efforts	20-7-1572(2) 20-7-610(L)(6)	reasonable efforts by agency to find alternatives implied

# SOUTH DAKOTA

Definitions	26-7A-1 26-8A-2	"abused or neglected child" abused or neglected child defined
Voluntary Placement	not specified	abused of negrected child defined
Emergency Hrg.	26-7A-13.1 26-7A-12 26-7A-14 26-7A-15 26-7A-18 26-7A-19(3) 26-8A-21	intake officer, judge or court designee to conduct hearing immediately if child removed without court order temporary custody without court order (no time specified) temporary custody not to exceed 48 hrs; court can release child from temp. custody at any time without hearing and with or without restrictions/conditions on parents/guardian temp. custody hearing within 48 hrs hearing can be conducted by phone if child in temp. custody, but not adjudicated, court will review temp. custody placement at least once every 60 days reasonable efforts finding required
Petition Filed	26-7A-43 26-7A-14	contents temporary custody no more than 48 hrs., excl s/s/h, without petition filed
Adjudic. Hrg.	26-7A-54 26-7A-55 26-7A-82	advisory hearing before adjudicatory hearing to advise rights and receive admission or denial if petition denied at pre-hearing, date set for adjudication adjudicatory hearing defined; burden of proof = clear and convincing evidence
Dispo. Hrg.	26-7A-87 26-7A-89 26-8A-22	immediately or at a later date set at adjudicatory hearing continuance w/i 3 months between hearings disposition alternatives (final disposition)
Court Reviews	26-7A-104,109 26-8A-24	party may petition to restore custody review hearings every 6 months
Court Permanency Plan Review	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	26-8A-26	child may not remain in foster care more than 12 months without p/p disposition made
Agency or Citizen Review	26-8A-17	child protection teams for investigations and treatment of child abuse and neglect
Reports, Plans	26-7A-103	court may order report from guardian or institution with custodial care

Atty/GAL for Children	26-7A-31 26-8A-20	court shall appoint attorney if indigent and if requested or if court finds necessary appointment of GAL or special advocate if child adjudicated
Attorney for Parent	26-7A-31	court shall appoint attorney if indigent and if requested
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	26-8A-26 26-8A-27	finding may be made at disposition review hearing TPR order
Reasonable Efforts	26-8A-21	reasonable efforts to eliminate need for removal, to return child home, how to determine adequacy of efforts

#### TENNESSEE 1996

Definitions	27 1 102	Habita II IIdamandant II and Ilmaalaat III
Definitions	37-1-102	"abuse," "dependent," and "neglected"
Voluntary Placement	37-1-110	informal adjustmentbefore or after petition filed for up to 3 months unless extended by court
Emergency Hrg. or "Preliminiary Hrg."	37-1-114a(2) 37-1-117(c) 37-1-128(2)	a child shall not be placed in shelter care prior to hearing on petition unless deemed abused or neglected no more than 72 hrs days after removal excl. s/s/h (may be waived) "emergency temporary care" no order for emergency temporary care remains in effect for more than 2 days unless petition filed
Petition Filed	37-117 petition 37-1-119 37-1-120 37-1-128	by any person contents if court corders temporary custody, petition must be filed within 2 days, excluding saturdays, sundays, holidays
Adjudic. Hrg.	37-1-124 37-1-125	without jury, in informal but orderly manner interloc. hearing pending final hearing for person served by publication
Dispo. Hrg.	37-1-128(g) 37-1-130 37-2-403 37-1-129	disposition must be held within 30 days of adjudication (for child in custody) disposition alternatives court to review placement plan within 60 days of foster care placement after hearing evidence on petition, the court shall make and file its findings as to whether child is abused or neglected if court finds that the child is abused or neglected it shall file written findings of fact within 30 days of close of hearing or, if an appeal of a petition of certiorari is filed, 5 days thereafter, excluding Sundays burden of proof = clear and convincing evidence
Court Reviews	37-1-130(e) 37-2-403	provisions for notice of home visits and court review court or board to review plan at least annually
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	37-2-409 37-2-409	at least every 12 months while in foster care after 18 month hearing court reviews permanency plan within 60 days of foster care placement if plan is not prepared, or parties do not agree on plan, court can continue review hearing for up to 30 days a plan for a child who remains in care for 1 yr may be modified to a "long-term agreement" between foster parent and agency "long-term agreement" described hearing within 18 months of placement
Permanency Deadline	not specified	

Agency or Citizen Review	37-1-407 37-2-406	child abuse review team - multidisciplinary team to serve as diagnostic and prognostic service for department in all cases of child abuse advisory review boards on foster care may be appointed to review cases if judge cannot review must review no more than 90 days after foster care placement and every 6 months, unless judicial review report to judge within 30 days
Reports, Plans	37-1-128(2) 37-1-130 37-2-403 37-2-404	if court orders dept. to make assessment of special needs of child, report must be received by court within 15 days (extensions for good cause for up to 30 days) reports and recommendations by agency or dept. in cases of abuse must be filed with court within 30 days after court orders report contents of agency's permanency plan must be filed with court within 30 days of foster care placement in addition to permanency plan, each agency must submit a "progress report" to court or advisory review board for each child in its foster care progress reports must be submitted within 90 days and no less frequently than every 6 mos.
Atty/GAL for Children	37-1-149	upon request of any party, GAL to be appointed if conflict with parent's interest; GAL must be appointed if child alleged abused, neglected; may appoint CASA also
Attorney for Parent	not specified	
CASA	37-1-149	court may appoint a special non-lawyer advocate for child duties described
T.P.R. and Adoption	37-1-147 37-2-403	authorization provisions if parents fail to appear at review hearings
Reasonable Efforts	37-1-166	reasonable efforts determination must be made before child retained by dept reasonable efforts described

**TEXAS** 1997

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Definitions	261.001(1) 261.001(4)	abuse neglect
Voluntary Placement	262.004 262.005 263.003	taking voluntary possession of child on voluntary delivery by parent, guardian petition must be filed by the 60th day after child taken into custody department to request court review of substitute care within 60 days of voluntary placement
Emergency Hrg.	262.103 262.105 262.106 262.101 262.102 262.104 262.111	emergency orders expire no later than 14 days after first issued petition to request hearing within 1 working day after child taken into possession within 1 working day; if court order, at least within 3 days filing petition in an emergency or when there is no time for an adversary hearing emergency order authorizing possession of child taking possession of child without a court order expedited hearing and appeal in emergencydept. is entitled to expedited hearing if it determines child should be removed from home (no time frame given); parents are entitled to an expedited appeal (no time frame given).
Petition Filed	262.005 262.105	petition to be filed within 60 days of voluntary placement without unnecessary delay after emergency removal (with hearing within 1 working day of removal)
Adjudic. Hrg. or "Full Adversary Hrg."	262.201 262.201	held no later than 14th day after the removal of the child burden of proof = sufficient evidence to satisfy a person of ordinary prudence and caution
Dispo. Hrg.	not specified	
Court Reviews	263.304 263.201 263.305	initial review hearing no later than 180 days after full adversary hearing no later than 60 days after full adversary hearing (review status plan) subsequent reviews not earlier than 5 1/2 months and not later than 7 months after last hearing unless good cause
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	not specified	

Agency or	261.312	agency review teams review all dept. cases
Citizen	264.406	agency multidisplinary review teams review all cases
Review	263.002	court shall hold a hearing to review substitute care
Reports, Plans	107.051 263.101	court may order social study of circumstances of home to be conducted by agency or "some other person appointed by the court."
		no later than 45th day after full adversary hearing, dept. shall file a "full service plan" with the court
	263.102	contents of "full service plan" described
	263.303	status reports to be filed within 10 days before each review hearing
Atty/GAL for Children	107.001	in case in which t.p.r. requested, GAL to be appointed unless attorney appointed or interests of child adequately protected; in other cases, appointment at the discretion of the judge
	107.011	appoint attorney when necessary to protect interests of the child
	107.012	in t.p.r. cases, appointment of attorney ad litem for child is mandatory
	107.021	immediately after filing
	107.031	court may appoint volunteer advocate
	107.014	powers and duties of attorney ad litem
Attorney for	107.001(d)	GAL appointed for any minor or incompetent parent
Parent	107.011	appoint attorney when necessary to protect interests of child
	107.013	mandatory appointment of attorney for indigent parents in termination of parental rights cases
CASA	107.031	court may appoint volunteer advocate as well as a group of court- certified volunteers to serve as an administrative review board to
	0.4.601	advise the court about placement
	264.601	"Court-Appointed Volunteer Advocates" defined
	264.607	duties of court appointed advocates
T.P.R. and	102.001	suits for t.p.r
Adoption		t.p.r. proceedings
	263.309	if parental rights terminated, court shall review dept's efforts to place child for adoption, once every 6 mos.
	264.205	"Swift Adoption Teams" mandated by law for dept. in order to
	207.203	expedite adoption shall report to legislature annually
Reasonable	263.307	factors in determining "best interests of the child"
Efforts		

UTAH 1996 Supp.

Definitions	62A-4a-101	abuse, dependent child, neglect
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg. or "Shelter Hrg."	78-3a-306 78-3a-307	"Shelter Hearing" - shall be held within 72 hours after removal of a child from his home excluding weekends and holidays; upon removal division shall issue a notice including date, time and place of the shelter hearing; concise statement of facts; notice served "as soon as possible" but at least 24 hours prior to time set for shelter hearing service on appropriate GAL, parents who should be present at hearing specified procedures of shelter care hearing outlined "Shelter Hearing" when child placed in home of noncustodial parent or relative procedures of hearing outlined, evidence given any preferential consideration that a relative may be initially granted custody expires 30 days from the date of the shelter hearing
Petition Filed	78-3a-305	any interested party may file; if child removed petition to be filed before shelter hearing
Adjudic. Hrg.	78-3a-308 78-3a-308 78-3a-309	within 15 days from shelter hearing, court to set pretrial hearing may be continued, but final adjudication within 45 days from shelter hearing pretrial may be continued "final adjudication hearing" shall be held no later than 45 calendar days from the date of the shelter hearing noticecontentswho served
Dispo. Hrg.	78-3a-310 78-3a-311,516	at time of adjudication or within 30 days disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	78-3a-314	"periodic review hearings"following the dispositional review hearing, periodic review hearings shall be held by the court or by a court appointed administrative body within the division of family services at least every 6 months
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	78-3a-312 78-3a-313 78-3a-412	if child not returned at 12 month hearing, schedule final determination hearing within 120 days review hearings at least every 6 months review hearing within 90 days of t.p.r
Permanency Deadline	78-3a-311	if child removed, reunification efforts for maximum of 12 months from date of initial removal; if child cannot be returned, p/p to be finalized; if child under 2, court may discontinue reunification services at 6 months and burden shifts to parents

Agency or Citizen Review	78-3a-319 78-3a-314 62A-4a-202.3	members of interdisciplinary child protection teams, established under 62A-4a-409 may participate in coordination of proceedings "periodic review hearings"after the dispositional review hearing, periodic review hearings may be held either by the court or by a court-approved administrative body within the division of family services at least every 6 months (see permanency plan reviews below as well) within 24 hours of removal, excluding saturdays, sundays, holidays, department to convene child protection team to assess case and services
Reports, Plans	62A-4a-205	no more than 45 days from temp. custody, treatment plan finalized
Atty/GAL for Children	78-3a-314 78-3a-912 78-3a-306	minor should be represented by GAL at every hearing, including t.p.r. proceedings court may appoint attorney GAL child's GAL present for shelter care hearing
Attorney for Parent	78-3a-314	if financially unable and child out of home or agency requested t.p.r., court should appoint
CASA	78-3a-912(4)	use of CASA trained volunteers
T.P.R. and Adoption	78-3a-402 62A-4a-205.6	proceedings for t.p.r. (foster parent may petition) intensive effort to place child in adoptive home within 30 days of t.p.r.
Reasonable Efforts	62A-4a-203 62A-4a-204	reasonable efforts defined to be those efforts which would be effective in a 6 month period determination of reasonable efforts

# VERMONT 1996 Supp.

Definitions	33/4912	"abused or neglected child"
	33/5502	"child in need of care or supervision"
Voluntary Placement	not specified	
Emergency Hrg. or "Detention Hrg."	33/5513 33/5515 VRFP2(c)*	if removed, officer must deliver child to court immediately for an order of detention w/i 48 hrs. of order of removal; may grant one 24 hr. extension court to hold preliminary hearing and set status conferences
Petition Filed	33/5517	described (no times set)
Adjudic. Hrg.	33/5519 33/5523	if child in shelter care, no more than 15 days from petition conduct of hearing; no jury
Dispo. Hrg.	33/5526 33/5528	may be held immediately but not later than 30 days after adjudication disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	33/5531 33/5532	for child under 3, upon motion court may hold review every 6 months; for children 3-6, review may be at 12 months parties may petition for modification
Court Permanency Plan Review	33/5531 33/5531	every year after 18 month review indeterminate period; to be reviewed 1 1/2 years after custody initially transferred
Permanency Deadline	33/5531	not specified; "indeterminate period";
Agency or Citizen Review	33/4917	multidisciplinary team to coordinate professional services
Reports, Plans	33/5527	disposition report after adjudication
Atty/GAL for Children	33/5525 VRFP6(a)	upon request or on its own, court shall appoint GAL if child's interests conflict with parents or if court feels in best interests court shall appoint counsel to represent child
CASA	not specified	

<sup>\*</sup>VRFP -- Vermont Rules of Family Procedure

T.P.R. and Adoption	15A-3-501 15A-3-504 VRFP3	Part 5 - petition to terminate relationship between parent & child grounds for TPR status conference set w/i 15 days of filing petition for TPR
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

#### VIRGINIA 1996

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Definitions	63.1-248.2 16.1-228	"abused or neglected child"  "abused or neglected child"; "child in need of services"
Voluntary Placement	63.1-56	local board can accept children for placement form parents; board to petition family court within a reasonable time not to exceed 30 days, unless the voluntary agreement stipulates entrustment for no more than 90 days voluntary entrustment
Emergency Hrg. or "Preliminary Removal Hrg."	63.1-248.9 16.1-247 16.1-251	child may be taken into custody up to 72 hours; emergency removal order or hearing within 72 hours excl. s/s/h; not to exceed 96 hours bring child before court or intake officer during court hours with all possible speed emergency order for removal; hearing within 5 business days
Petition Filed	16.1-262	form
Adjudic. Hrg.	16.1-252 16.1-252	at least 24 hours notice; burden of proof is preponderance of the evidence; adjudication made unless objections adjudicatory hearing to be set within 30 days of preliminary hearing if objection to findings at preliminary hearings
Dispo. Hrg.	16.1-252(H) 16.1-278.2 16.1-278.4	within 75 days of preliminary hearing disposition alternatives disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	16.1-281 16.1-282	foster care review hearing to be set for within 6 months after foster care plan presented or reviewed (within 6 months of disposition hearing) parties may petition for review; agency must petition within 5 months of foster care plan review; court to schedule hearing within 30 days
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	16.1-282.1(D) 16.1-282(E)	annual review 12 months from disposition hearing, except if in permanent foster care or w/i 30 days of petition; request for continuation of custody only for 6 months; must be w/i 12 months of disposition hearing
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	63.1-248.6 63.1-248.7 63.1-248.7.1 63.1-248.16 63.1-248.18	child protective services board multidisciplinary teams child protective services unit powers and duties state board of social services oversight duties advisory board on child abuse and neglect pilot multiple response team (effective 3/1/97)

Reports, Plans	16.1-296(3) 16.1-281	appeals within 10 days foster care plan reports of substance abuse filed within 14 days within 45 days whether abuse found or not
Atty/GAL for Children	16.1-266 16.1-266.1	appointment of counsel as GAL where child is subject to entrustment agreement on t.p.r.; court shall appoint attorney if indigent child (can be waived); court may appoint attorney GAL in all other cases standards for attorney appointed GAL
Attorney for Parent	16.1-266(c)	appoint attorney for indigent parent (may be waived)
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	16.1-283	t.p.r. procedures (no times set)
Reasonable Efforts	16.1-251(2)	reasonable efforts to prevent removal of child

# WASHINGTON

Definitions	26.44.020 13.34.030	"abused"; "neglected" "dependent child"
Voluntary Placement	13.70.100	agency reporting procedure in voluntary placements; review w/i 90 days of child's placement; second review w/i 6 months of placement; then another 6 months
Emergency Hrg.	13.34.060 13.34.060(11) 26.44.050 26.44.056 26.44.056 26.44.115	child in shelter care w/i 72 hours, excl. s/s/h, without court order; hearing w/i 72 hours, excl. s/s/h; parent can waive hearing; notice to parents w/i 24 where child taken into custody with court order hearing can be continued and rescheduled for a time w/i 72 hours of request by parent or guardian temporary protective custody in emergency must notify the court in 72 hrs. that child has been taken to hospital child protective services may detain child until court assumes custody, but in no case longer than 72 hrs. if child taken into custody pursuant to court order, parents must be notified immediately
Petition Filed	13.34.040 13.34.070	any person may file petition
Adjudic. Hrg. or "Fact- finding Hrg."	13.34.070(1) 13.34.110 13.34.130	hearing on petition w/i 75 days, unless exceptional circumstances hearing; parties need not appear if agreement burden of proof = preponderance of evidence
Dispo. Hrg.	13.34.110 13.34.130 13.34.130(2)	immediately following adjudicatory hearing or w/i 14 days for good cause; parties do not need to attend if all in agreement disposition alternatives court may order t.p.r. petition to be filed
Court Reviews	13.34.130(5)	review every 6 months (unless foster care review board) from date of placement or date of adjudication, whichever is first; if child returned home, supervision for 6 months
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	13.34.145(8) 13.70.140	at least every 12 months have a p/p hearing; unless permanent guardian, court to review every 6 months every 6 months after p/p hearing
Permanency Deadline	13.34.154 13.34.1543(a) 13.34.1543(b)	permanency before 15 months in out-of-home care for children under 10 years, p/p hearing after 9 months in care and not later than 12 months after removal for children over 10 years, hearing after 15 months (and before 18 months) in care

Agency or Citizen Review	13.32A.040 13.32A.044 13.70 13.70.100	multidisciplinary team to provide family reconciliation services assist in coordination of services citizen review board system (pilot project) agency reporting procedure in voluntary placement; w/i 30 days report to court; w/i 45 days court shall assign case to a board and board shall review w/i 90 days of commencement of placement; second review w/i 6 months of placement; next review w/i 1 year of placement; w/i 10 working days of review, board shall report to all parties setting forth case plan review procedure if child in nonvoluntary placement same as above except w/i 18 months of placement a p/p hearing must be held; thereafter, court assigns case to board or court review at least once a year; board reviews cases where parental rights are terminated no later than 45 days after denial; w/i 45 days of board review the board shall schedule case for next review and submit findings to court; w/i 10 days court will review
Reports, Plans	13.34.120 13.34.145 13.34.145(5)	social study and report to be mailed to parents more than 10 days from disposition hearing permanent plan to be prepared w/i 60 days from disposition or placement 10 days before p/p hearing, report to court
Atty/GAL for Children	13.34.100 13.34.100(b) 26.44.053	court shall appoint GAL, unless court finds it unnecessary; can be independent counsel court may also appoint legal counsel court shall appoint GAL
Attorney for Parent	13.34.090	appointment of attorney if indigent
CASA	13.34.030 13.34.100 13.34.100(8)	included in definition of GAL GAL program appointment of CASA or voluntary GAL
T.P.R. and Adoption	13.34.180 13.34.190 13.34.200 13.34.220	t.p.r. petition after hearings, court may enter order to TPR rights of parties findings of fact, conclusions of law; presented to court by prevailing party w/i 30 days of court's extension
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

#### WEST VIRGINIA 1996

Definitions	49-1-3	"abused child"; "child abuse and/or neglect"; "neglected child"
Voluntary Placement	49-6-2(b) 49-6-5(c) 49-6-8	court may grant an "improvement period"; can grant pre-adjustment 6 month improvement period can be ordered at disposition 12 months after voluntary placement, agency to file petition for review
Emergency Hrg. or "Preliminary Hrg."	49-6-3 49-6-3(c)	with court order, protective hearing w/i 10 days of removal; or with 5 days notice if no removal; if temporary care ordered, must end w/i 60 days in emergency, child can be removed; CPS must "forthwith appear" before court and get emergency order
Petition Filed	49-6-1 49-6-3	state department or "reputable person" may file if child removed, petition must be filed w/i 2 judicial days
Adjudic. Hrg.	49-6-2(c) 49-6-2(d)	burden of proof = clear and convincing evidence; priority setting over other civil matters hearings to be held as near as possible to previous hearings; with respect to hearing at the end of an improvement period, hearing held w/i 60 days of termination of that period
Dispo. Hrg.	49-6-5	disposition hearing and alternatives; may terminate parental rights at disposition
Court Reviews	49-6-8	12 months after placement, agency to petition for review (hearing in chambers)
Court Permanency Plan Review	49-6-8(b)	18 months after 12 month review and every 18 months after, agency to file a supplementary petition for review
Permanency Deadline	not specified	
Agency or Citizen Review	49-5D 49-5D-5	multidisciplinary teams for evaluation and coordinated service delivery for children to assist with p/p child fatality review team
Reports, Plans	49-6D-3 49-6-5 49-6-8(d)	family case plans for parents of abused and neglected children case plan filed with court after adjudication, including p/p, sent to parents 5 days before disposition hearing agency to file report whenever child in 3 placements in one year; report 30 days after third placement
Atty/GAL for Children	49-6-2	counsel appointed if indigent; one attorney may represent all children

Attorney for Parent	49-6-2	counsel appointed if indigent; same attorney cannot represent both parents unless consent
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	not specified	
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

#### WISCONSIN 1997

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Definitions	48.02 48.13 48.981	"abuse" "in need of protection or services" "neglect"
Voluntary Placement	48.21(7) 48.245 48.32 48.63	at emergency hearing, court may order informal disposition under 48.245 intake worker may enter into informal disposition without court involvement; valid up to 6 months with one 6 month extension consent decree; valid for 6 months voluntary agreements; not to exceed 6 month extensions
Emergency Hrg.	48.21	hearing within 24 hrs of decision to hold (excl. s/s/h); may be extended 48 hrs with approval of court
Petition Filed	48.21 48.25(2A) 48.255	petition must be filed before emergency hearing where child removed; child may be held for additional 72 hours after hearing if no petition; only one extension petition within 20 days after filing of intake workers' recommendation; if petition not filed case returned to intake worker who has 20 days to close case; further investigations conducted within 20 days contents
Adjudic. Hrg. or "Plea Hrg." and "Fact- finding Hrg."	48.30(1) 48.30(5) 48.31 48.299	plea hearing within 30 days after filing petition if child involuntarily removed, plea hearing w/i 30 days of request fact-finding hearing may be jury trial; burden of proof = clear and convincing evidence closed unless child demands open, and then at discretion of court; court may exclude child under 7, and temporarily at its discretion and with consent of child's counsel or GAL
Dispo. Hrg.	48.31(7) 48.32(1,2) 48.345 48.345 48.365	disp. hearing no more than 30 days from fact-finding hearing consent decree (suspension of proceedings) in effect for 6 months & continued additional 6 months disposition "in need of services" dispositional orders (alternatives); valid for one year or less disposition order (which must include expiration date) cannot be extended without hearing
Court Reviews	48.363 48.38(5)	parties may request modification of disposition order; court may hold hearing with 3 days notice plan review by court or panel every 6 months from date of placement
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	48.357(1) 48.38(5) 48.363	court review of changes in placement within 10 days review every 6 months revision of dispositional orders; no revision shall extend effective period of original order

Permanency Deadline	48.355 48.365	disposition orders valid only for 1 year or less extension orders valid for 1 year except if t.p.r. filed or appeal taken; orders in effect until resolved
Agency or Citizen Review	48.38(5) 48.56 48.982	court may appoint panel to conduct p/p reviews county child welfare services child abuse and neglect prevention board
Reports, Plans	48.33 48.355(2c) 49.425	reports: home placement; out of home placement; foster parents permanency plan required report -termination or parental rights
Atty/GAL for Children	48.20(7)(a) 48.23	right to counsel if 12 or older if petition is contested, court cannot place child out-of-home unless child is represented at fact-finding and subsequent hearings; if not contested, no placement unless child represented at placement hearing; for children under 12, judge may appoint GAL instead of attorney court shall appoint GAL for child subject of t.p.r. petition
Attorney for Parent	48.23(2)	in contested adoption or involuntary t.p.r., parents under 18 shall be represented; no waiver; minor parent petitioning for voluntary t.p.r. shall have GAL; parent over 18 shall have counsel in contested adoption or involuntary t.p.r., but may waive; court may not appoint counsel for parent in other situations
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	48.365 48.40 48.46 48.43	if child in custody for 2 years or more, agency must report on whether t.p.r. petition filed t.p.r. procedure; may be by jury parent may petition for rehearing up to 1 year; appeal w/i 30 days post T.p.r. annual review
Reasonable Efforts	48.355(2c)	reasonable efforts standard

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Definitions	14-3 <b>-</b> 202 14-3 <b>-</b> 402	"abuse"; "neglect" "neglected child"
	14-3-402	negrected child
Voluntary Placement	14-3-428	consent decree in force not longer than 1 year
Emergency Hrg. or "Shelter Hrg."	14-3-409 14-3-208	informal hearing w/i 72 hours of removal without court order temporary custody by physician in emergency; order by district judge shall not exceed 72 hrs
Petition Filed	14-3-409 14-3-413	to be filed promptly upon emergency removal without court order contents
Adjudic. Hrg.	14-3-409(c) 14-3-423 14-3-425 14-3-426	if parents deny allegations at shelter hearing, adjudicatory hearing set w/i 45 days (but see 426) parties may request jury trial at adjudicatory hearing burden of proof =preponderence if allegations denied at first hearing, adjudicatory hearing to be set w/i 60 days
Dispo. Hrg.	14-3-426(c) 14-3-429	after adjudication, disposition hearing immediately or w/i 60 days; may continue for period not to exceed 60 days disposition alternatives
Court Reviews	not specified	
Court Permanency Plan Reviews	not specified	
Permanency Deadline	14-3-431	disposition order in effect for indefinite period, until child is 18 or until terminated by court
Agency or Citizen Review	14-3-204 14-3-212 14-3-427	agency to prepare treatment plan and review annually multidisciplinary child protection teams to help diagnose and prepare treatment plan multidisciplinary team, including parents to make case plan recommendation
Reports, Plans	14-3-427	predisposition plans with court prior to disposition hearings (no times set)

Atty/GAL for Children	14-2-312 14-3-211 14-3-416	in t.p.r., court shall appoint GAL unless interests protected court shall appoint counsel, who shall serve as GAL unless another GAL appointed court shall appoint GAL if interests adverse or not protected; may not be a party or employee of agency
Attorney for Parent	14-2-312 14-3-422	court may appoint counsel for any part if necessary for interests of justice shall appoint counsel upon request if indigent
CASA	not specified	
T.P.R. and Adoption	14-2-308 14-2-312	t.p.r. procedure (no times set) right to jury trial
Reasonable Efforts	not specified	

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